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BBMP move helps NRI property owners

BENGALURU
The BBMP lifting the mandate on Aadhaar card for securing e-khata on its new digitised system will facilitate Non-Residing Indians (NRI) property owners to carry out land transactions as e-khata is compulsory for registration of properties. » Page 2

KSRTC staff plan State-wide strike on December 31

BENGALURU
The KSRTC Staff and Workers' Federation, along with other transport unions, is planning a State-wide strike on December 31 to urge the State government to meet their long-pending demands.
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Sena cites Bihar model to seek CM chair for Shinde

Maharashtra BJP leaders take an uncompromising stand in support of Fadnavis; NCP chief Ajit Pawar expresses support for him, but says the three top leaders will sit together and take decision

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
MUMBAI

Bihar pattern should be implemented in Maharashtra whereby the Chief Minister's position should be given to a smaller regional party though the BJP has the largest seat share, Shiv Sena MP Naresh Mhaske said here on Monday.

On a day when a delegation of Sena leaders paid a courtesy visit to BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis, pressure mounted on the BJP to consider making Eknath Shinde the Chief Minister for a limited period. This demand comes at a time when NCP leader Ajit Pawar has already said he will support Mr. Fadnavis. BJP State leaders said they wanted Mr. Fadnavis to be the Chief Minister and that there was no question of a compromise.

Divine route: Eknath Shinde's supporters praying at a temple in Nashik seeking his return as Chief Minister. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"There is no decision as yet on the Chief Minister position. The three top leaders will sit together and take that decision," Mr. Ajit Pawar told reporters.

While Sena supporters were offering prayers in several prominent temples across the State, including in the Siddhivinayak Temple in Mumbai and the Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati temple in Pune, for Mr. Shinde to be made the Chief Minister, Maratha quota activist Manoj Jarange-Patil threatened a stir if Mr. Fadnavis was picked.

"Just like a decision was taken in Bihar, in Haryana, it should be taken here as well. Though Nitish Kumar's party is small, he was supported so his party could grow. Shiv Sena should be supported here and Eknath Shinde should be made the Chief Minister. It was under his leadership that the State was governed in the past two-and-a-half years. The election was fought under his leadership. He was the face for schemes such as the Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana, which led to a landslide victory for the Mahayuti. He is an acceptable face for all the communities of the State. Moreover, the BJP should silence critics like Sanjay Raut who claim that the party follows a 'use and throw' policy," Mr. Mhaske said on Monday.

CONTINUED ON
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Amid chaos over Adani row, both Houses adjourned

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Winter Session of Parliament got off to a stormy start on Monday over the indictment of billionaire-industrialist Gautam Adani by a U.S. court for alleged bribery and fraud. Both Houses were adjourned for the day amid a flurry of adjournment motions by the Opposition demanding the formation of a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) to probe the matter.

However, the Chair in both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha refused permission for the debate. There will be no sitting of Parliament on Tuesday to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Constituent Assembly's adoption of the Constitution in 1949.

CONTINUED ON
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'Secular, socialist' to stay in Constitution's Preamble, says SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

"The word 'secular' denotes a Republic that upholds equal respect for all religions. 'Socialist' represents a Republic dedicated to eliminating all forms of exploitation – whether social, political, or economic," a Bench of Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar interpreted.

The order was based on a batch of petitions filed in 2020, challenging the validity of the inclusion of 'socialist' and 'secular' in the Preamble through the 42nd Constitution Amendment in 1976. The petitioners, who included BJP leader Subramanian Swamy, argued that the insertions made with retrospective effect, that is from the date of adoption of the Constitution by the Constituent Assembly on November 26, 1949, amounted to a fraud on the Constitution. Besides, they argued that the word 'secular' was deliberately eschewed by the Constituent Assembly and the word 'socialist' fettered the economic policy choice of the elected government, which represents the will of the people.

The apex court, in its seven-page order, said the case was not worth a detailed adjudication as the flaws in the petitioners' arguments were manifest. Besides, the court found the motives of the petitions, filed nearly 44 years after such an insertion, "questionable".

The court held that the Preamble was an inalienable part of the Constitution. Parliament had an unquestionable power to amend the Constitution under Article 368.

CONTINUED ON
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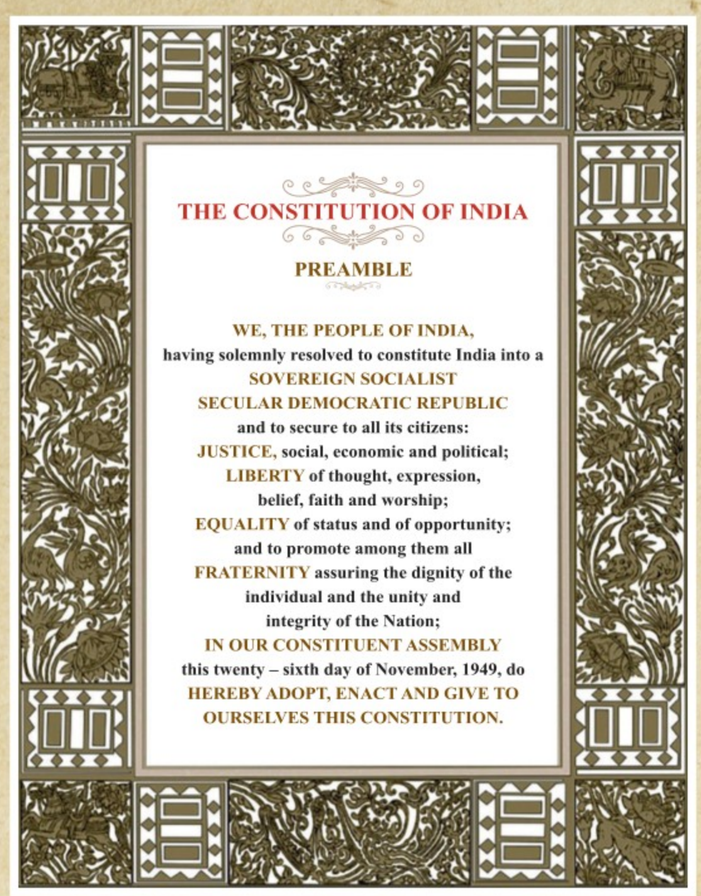
Constitution Day Celebration

For Liberty, Equality, Fraternity



Social Welfare Department

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

On the Occasion of the Constitution day Celebration, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka will garland the Statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar positioned in front of Vidhana Soudha at 10.30 AM, followed by 'flag off' of **"The Constitution Awareness Walkathon Jatha"** organised by the National Service Scheme (NSS) Cell in collaboration with the Department of Youth Empowerment & Sports.

Programme

Date: 26.11.2024, Tuesday at 11.00 AM. Venue: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Bhavan, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru.

Inauguration of Conference Hall at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Bhavan

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka

August Presence

Sri Basavaraj S. Horatti
Hon'ble Chairman,
Karnataka Legislative Council

Sri U.T. Khader
Hon'ble Speaker,
Karnataka Legislative Assembly

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister,
Government of Karnataka

Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa,
Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare,
Government of Karnataka

All are cordially invited

Major P. Manivannan, IAS,
Principal Secretary to Government, Social Welfare Department

Dr. Rakesh Kumar K., IAS,
Commissioner, Social Welfare Department

Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare, participating in an interaction programme with the Chairman of ISRO.

As is enshrined in our Constitution, to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

Perth masterclass, a leap in Jaiswal's quest to carve a niche for himself

The southpaw, labelled as heir apparent to Kohli, was quick to overcome his disappointment in the first innings, dig deep and adapt on his way to a fabulous hundred that left the opposition in awe at Perth, features in a record stand for India in Australia and sets up the win along with his illustrious teammates

GETTY IMAGES

R. Kaushik
PERTH

Jasprit Bumrah was the undisputed choice for the Player-of-the-Match award following India's humongous victory over Australia in the first Test in Perth. But if India's stand-in captain had had his way, he said, he would have conferred that honour on Yashasvi Jaiswal, the young opener playing his first Test on Australian soil.

Jaiswal arrived in these shores high on reputation, after a string of tall scores this year that took him to 1,000 Test runs in India alone this calendar year. That included two double-centuries in as many Tests against England in February, followed by six half-centuries in his next 13 innings. As far as consistency was concerned, Jaiswal was in a league of his own.

Yet, question marks hung around how he would adapt to alien conditions in Australia. He had played only four Tests overseas - two in the Caribbean where he followed up 171 on debut in Roseau with 57 and 38 in Port of Spain in July last year, and two more in South Africa in December-January where four innings netted him just 50 runs.

The tracks in the West Indies bear no resemblance to the spiced-up surfaces that aided the Caribbeans' multi-pronged pace attack until the 1990s, but the pitches in South Africa challenged all batters in a low-scoring series and Jaiswal didn't exactly look at home.

Around those question marks and apprehensions about his adaptability, Jaiswal still attracted tremendous attention from the Australian media, who anointed him the heir apparent to Virat Kohli. It's unlikely that Jaiswal is aware of that label; it can be a huge cross to bear for someone so young and inexperienced - the Mumbai left-hander had played just 14 Tests when he departed India for Australia a fortnight back.

Jaiswal has made a name for himself as an attacking, aggressive batter who can take down spin effortlessly, but who is also at home against pace. But much of his success had come on relatively docile decks in India, where movement off the straight was minimal and there wasn't too much bounce to contend with.

Point of interest

Like with all young subcontinental batters who travel Down Under for the first time, the major point of interest was how Jaiswal would counter the bounce, and whether he could keep his natural instincts in check for long enough so that he could get a hang of the conditions and the bowling.

In his bid to leave no stone unturned in his preparations, Jaiswal spent the few days between the end of the New Zealand series at home and the flight to Perth via Singapore polishing his skills against the short ball. Particularly with the bounce in mind, he negotiated throwdowns against a slightly lighter ball that would travel quickly through the air to land on an inclined concrete slab positioned at just short of a good length.

Once in Perth, he spent hours on end at practice at the nets at the WACA ground and the Optus Stadium, determined to give a good account of himself because 'I've always wanted to come to Australia and do well here'.

For all his preparation and determination, however, Jaiswal disappointed himself in the first innings on the first day of the Test, driving at Mitchell Starc on the up in the third over without getting his foot across and edging a catch to gully. It was a poor stroke, perhaps a hangover from batting on Indian pitches despite all his work towards erasing muscle memory and building a new blueprint.

Quick learner

Jaiswal didn't need to be reminded of the responsibility that lay on his slender shoulders when he returned to bat a second time on the second day with India sitting on an unexpected lead of 46.

His constant opening partner of his first 14 Tests, Rohit Sharma, wasn't at the other end to get in his ear every time he played a false stroke but fortunately, in K.L. Rahul, Jaiswal had another seasoned and level-headed campaigner who made all the right noises, exhorted his younger partner to control his breathing and stay calm and retain his composure without shackling his instincts or goading him to go into his shell.

Showing that he is a quick learner, Jaiswal fed off not just his first-innings dismissal but also the masterclass in leaving the ball Rahul was putting on at the other end.

Long back, Rahul Dravid had impressed upon Sadagopan Ramesh the importance of learning to enjoy leaving balls in the corridor. One is not sure if his younger namesake invoked the same spirit, but Jaiswal clearly thrived in the Bengalurean's company, bedding down to drive India into the ascendancy without allowing the score board to remain static.

Australia threw everything at him - changes in angles, lengths and lines. They went short, they went full, they tried to bowl in-between lengths. They packed the offside, they had fielders on the ramp, but Jaiswal always had their measure. Sure, he played the occasional ambitious stroke, which any batter, however experienced, will from time to time. Fortunately, he enjoyed the rub of the green that is forever necessary to flourish in bowler-friendly conditions.

Greedy batter

Jaiswal is nothing if not a greedy batter. Each of his three previous Test tons was a 'daddy' hundred - the lowest was 171 on debut. He doesn't like throwing his hand away, and as he gets past three-figures, he loves switching gears and going on the attack. He kept up his end of the bargain yet again, easing through the landmarks of which the most crucial was his 201-run opening salvo with Rahul.

In all their years of coming to Australia, India had never had the luxury of a double century opening stand in these shores. The closest a pair had come to that milestone was 191, realised by Sunil Gavaskar and K. Srikkanth in Sydney in 1986. In their first Test together opening the batting, Jaiswal and Rahul went where no Indian tandem had before, with judiciousness but also with attractive shot-making and generally well-worked ones and twos, though they did have their moments of anxiety and either could have been run out more than once.

Perfect base

India's first century opening stand in more than 20 years in Australia was the perfect base from which to translate a position of promise into an impregnable tally and even after Rahul's departure for a polished 77, Jaiswal didn't flag.

The runs came a little more freely, if not easily, but the 22-year-old's concentration was admirable, his appetite impressive. When he touched 150, he joined Graeme Smith, the former South African captain, as the only members of a club where each of their first four Test hundreds mushroomed into a 150-plus knock, not a bad name for company given the heights Smith, also a left-handed opener, touched during his long career.

When he was finally dismissed for 161, made in a little over seven hours, Jaiswal stood his ground, disbelievingly. Having seen off far more threatening deliveries, he smashed a short and wide ball from Mitchell Marsh straight into the hands of point, then took an eternity dragging himself off the park.

He felt he had left a few runs behind in the middle. Maybe he will make up in the next Test in Adelaide. Or in any/all of the Tests thereafter, in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney.

Heir apparent might be a nice publicity tool but while Jaiswal will be flattered to be spoken of in the same breath as the man he admires and respects immensely, he is out on a mission to carve an identity of his own. He was one of the few batters at home against the turning ball on dubious tracks against New Zealand and now, he has revealed his penchant for playing express pace and not-insignificant bounce with the same felicity and authority.

Time is his ally; he has all the trappings of being a successful batter for a long period of time if he stays fit, retains his hunger and continues to embrace his humility.

Having seen him go about his business, there is no reason to suspect that he won't tick all those boxes and more, because for all his brilliance in T20 cricket, he has the soul and the feel for the five-day game, which the connoisseurs consider the ultimate examination of a player's skill, technique, temperament - indeed, their character.

It's only early days for him in Australia, but they simply can't stop talking about him. They know what Kohli brings to the table - he has entertained and enthralled them for 14 years and seven Test centuries - and they are in awe of Bumrah for his effortless extraordinariness, but Jaiswal has touched them like few Indian batters, indeed few young batters anywhere, have.

They love his shot-making but they also are taken in by his leaves and his defensive technique. Australia is considered the hardest place to impress the locals but once they are smitten by you, they totally adopt you. They did that with Sachin Tendulkar and V.V.S. Laxman, then with Kohli and Bumrah. Jaiswal is firmly in their radars, and there is little danger of him disappearing off it anytime soon.

Bumrah's praise

Oh, and as for Bumrah's choice of the Player-of-the-Match... "It was his first Test in Australia and he batted against his nature in the second innings. This is the best Test hundred of his career that I have seen. If you make runs in one way, you want to stick to the same thing. But when you are able to adapt and change, that's when you go ahead and become a great batter." Savour that praise, Yashasvi Jaiswal.

THE GIST

- Jaiswal has made a name for himself as an attacking, aggressive batter who can take down spin effortlessly, but who is also at home against pace
- The left-hander will be flattered to be spoken of in the same breath as Kohli, the man he admires and respects immensely, but he is out on a mission to carve an identity of his own
- When Jaiswal touched 150, he joined former South Africa skipper Smith as the only other batter to make 150-plus in each of their first four Test hundreds

BBMP lifting mandate on Aadhaar for securing e-khata helps NRI property owners

Realising that many NRIs do not possess the document, the civic body has made it optional

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

According to the latest data, more than six lakh draft e-khatas have been downloaded by property owners. FILE PHOTO

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) lifting the mandate on Aadhaar card for securing e-khata on its new digitised system will facilitate Non-Residing Indians (NRI) property owners to carry out land transactions as e-khata is compulsory for registration of properties.

The BBMP rolled out a faceless, contactless, and online e-khata issuance system on October 1 after the Karnataka government made this document mandatory for property registrations. According to the latest data, more than six lakh draft e-khatas were downloaded by the property owners.

Initially, the BBMP had made Aadhaar mandatory for property owners to download e-khata. But realising that many NRIs do not possess this document, the document was made optional. A senior BBMP official said in a city like Bengaluru, many NRIs purchase properties as a means of investment and they often engage in selling and don't post Aadhaar. Hence, the mandate was lifted.

The NRIs who wish to get e-khata can submit a passport or driving license or voter ID card. However, they have to visit the Assistant Revenue Officer (ARO) to apply for the document. The applicant should also provide a passport size photograph at the ARO office. The revenue officer will process the request and approval will be done electronically.

Apart from this document, the NRI property owners have to submit a registered deep number of the sale deed, property tax SAS (self-assessment system) number, and 10-digit account identification number of the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom). The Bescom number is optional for vacant plots.

The BBMP official said currently this option is available in-person at the ARO office and NRIs cannot apply for e-khata on their own through the website www.bbmpeAasthi.karnataka.gov.in.

He said so far, two property registrations have happened in BBMP limits without providing Aadhaar.

Shashank S., one of the directors of Acrements, a real estate marketing company, said: "This has come as big relief to NRIs. Many NRIs do not have Aadhaar card as they live abroad. But they do invest in Bengaluru's real estate market. Aadhaar being mandatory would deny them the opportunity to sell properties. This is a welcome step by the BBMP. As we also have NRI clients, we will be educating them about the same."

BMRCL invites tenders for design of Phase 3 of Namma metro

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In total, the Phase 3 metro project will include 30 stations, with 21 on the first line and nine on the second. FILE PHOTO

The Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (BMRCL) has made progress in its Phase 3 metro project by completing geotechnical surveys and initiating the tender process for its design.

Phase 3 features two elevated stretches – a 32.15-km line that will link J.P. Nagar Phase 4 to Kempapura via the western side of the Outer Ring Road and a 12.5-km line that will run along Magadi Road connecting Hosahalli and Kadabagere. In total, the project will include 30 stations, with 21 on the first line and nine on the second. The double-decker flyover aims to address congestion issues by stacking metro lines and roadways vertically, according to officials.

To execute this design, BMRCL has segmented the tender process into three phases, focusing on critical sections between Sumanahalli Cross and Kadabagere, Sumanahalli Cross and Kempapura, and from J.P. Nagar Station to BDA Complex Nagarbhavi Station.

According to tender documents, the scope of the tender includes designing elevated metro routes, stations, roadways, and ramps along these corridors. In addition to infrastructure design, BMRCL is seeking consultancy for depot layouts, multi-modal transport integration, and establishing CIVAC (Centralised Inspection and Verification Automated Centre) facilities at key points near Peenya and Sumanahalli.

The Phase 3 project was officially approved earlier this year by both the Karnataka government and the Union Cabinet, with an estimated cost of ₹15,611 crore. Financial responsibility will predominantly rest with the Karnataka government, covering 80-85% of expenses, while the Centre will contribute the remainder.

Geotechnical survey

To lay the groundwork for construction, BMRCL conducted a detailed geotechnical survey in September, costing approximately ₹6 crore, to assess soil and rock conditions along the proposed routes. "This survey has informed the foundational requirements for the elevated structures. Land acquisition efforts have commenced, with a preliminary notification issued to acquire 299 properties along the ORR section, as submitted to the KIADB," the official said.

Phase III will extend the metro network by 44.65 km, bringing the city's total coverage to 220.2 km.

Man flees with son after killing wife

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Chandra Layout police are on the lookout for a 38-year-old man, who allegedly strangled his wife to death, and is on the run with their son.

The accused Imran Khan, a welder, was living with his wife Ghousia, 31, and their four-year-old son in Gangondanahalli.

The police said the murder occurred on Friday night, and an FIR was registered on Sunday after Ghousia's body was found by her brother Zameer Ullah Khan.

In his complaint, Zameer said that Imran was initially on good terms with Ghousia. But in the last six months, he began quarrelling with her, suspecting her fidelity.

Recently, Ghousia went to her parent's place and said her husband was beating her. Around 11 p.m. on Saturday, Zameer was informed by his brother that Imran had contacted his boss asking for money. Zameer then visited Ghousia's house and found her lying on the bed with a veil tightened around her neck.

Case of businesswoman's death referred to CCB

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The case of a 35-year-old businesswoman, who died by suicide after allegedly being harassed by a Deputy Superintendent of Police (Dy.SP), CID, has been referred to the Central Crime Branch (CCB).

The victim, Jeeva, was one of the accused in the Karnataka Bhovi Development Corporation scam. Jeeva was summoned to Dy.SP-CID Kanakalakshmi's office, where she was allegedly stripped and humiliated on the pretext of questioning.

The officer allegedly refused to accept the documents submitted by Jeeva and reportedly demanded a bribe of ₹25 lakh.

Kanakalakshmi visited the victim's shop again on Thursday and abused and humiliated her publicly, which prompted Jeeva to take her own life.

Based on the complaint by the victim's sister, the Banashankari police registered a case of abetment to suicide and also booked the officer under the Prevention of Corruption Act. After the advocates association demanded a CBI inquiry, the city Police Commissioner ordered a CCB probe.

In 2023, the State government ordered a probe into the alleged scam, concerning the misappropriation of crores of rupees. The accused allegedly created a list of fake beneficiaries under the scheme, took their signatures on RTGS forms, and transferred ₹5 lakh each to their bank accounts, while the actual beneficiaries got only ₹25,000 each.

(Those in distress or those having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani Ph.: 104 for help.)

Groundnut and the celebrations

(Clockwise from left) Teppotsava - a boat mantapam with the idol of Dodda Basavanna - let afloat on Kempambudhi Kere in Bengaluru on Monday on the last day of Karthika Somavara. Teppotsava has been part of Kadalekayi Parishe for centuries; devotees light lamps during Lakshadeepothsava celebrations on the occasion of Karthika Somavara; and the crowd at the annual groundnut fair 'Kadalekai Parishe', which kick-started at Basavangudi on Monday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Scientists from JNCASR find new way to detect Monkeypox virus

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An isolation ward for people with symptoms of Mpox. FILE PHOTO

Scientists from the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre For Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) have identified a new route to understand the virology of Monkeypox Virus (MPV) or the Mpox virus.

Besides, they have also developed diagnostic tools for the infection as well to find a novel path with therapeutic implications.

Scientists from JNCASR have identified and characterised highly conserved G-quadruplex (GQ) forming DNA sequences – a set of four, within the MPV genome, and specifically detected a specific GQ sequence using a tailored fluorescent small-molecule probe, enabling precise detection of MPV.

"The identification, characterisation and targeting of unusual nucleic acid structures such as GQs have therapeutic implications," states the Department of Science and Technology (DST) of which JNCASR is an autonomous institution.

DST further added that these GQ sequences are stable under physiological conditions, highly conserved and are not present in other pox viruses, other pathogens, and the human genome.

"These characteristics make the GQ sequences valuable targets for the development of diagnostic tools and therapeutic intervention," it said.

DST said that the fluorogenic molecular probe (BBJL) developed by Sumon Pratihar, Ramjayakumar Venkatesh, Mohamed Nabeel Mattath, and Thimmaiah Govindaraju also delivers more than 250-fold enhancement in fluorescence output upon binding with a MPV GQs (MP2).

"The ability of BBJL to selectively detect this highly conserved sequence in the MPV genome sets a precedent for the development of detection techniques targeting noncanonical nucleic acids," it said.

According to DST, the molecular probe is non-fluorescent in absence of the target GQ-DNA and is the first practical demonstration of a GQ targeted diagnostic strategy for detection of MPV.

They have also developed diagnostic tools for the infection

"This represents the expansion of their modular diagnostic platform, GQ-targeted reliable conformation polymorphism (GQ-RCP), which was originally developed for the detection of SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19, by identifying MPV/Mpox-specific GQs and a novel fluorogenic probe which was earlier published in ACS Sensors," it said.

Further added that the GQs identified in MPV genome can also serve as potential antiviral targets. Outbreak of MPV have recently been declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) twice in a span of the last three years.

Woman found dead in bathroom

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 25-year-old woman was found dead in the bathroom of her friend's house at Adepete in Nelamangala on Sunday.

Lakhsmi, a native of Tirupati, had come with her husband to attend a family function in Malleswaram and was staying at her friend's house.

The Nelamangala town police have registered a case of unnatural death.

In another incident, a 50-year-old carpenter allegedly ended his life at a lodge in Koramangala on Monday. He was identified as Jayaram, a native of Udupi. Police said that Jayaram, along with his brother, was staying at the lodge as they were looking for a carpentry work.

On Sunday morning, Jayaram's body was found inside the bathroom. Jayaram is survived by his wife in Udupi.

(Those in distress or those having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani Ph.: 104 for help.)

T.N. Khoshoo Memorial Award for Manish Rajankar, Shalu Kolhe

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment (ATREE) has announced Manish Rajankar and Shalu Kolhe as the recipients of the 21st T.N. Khoshoo Memorial Award.

Mr. Rajankar is the director at the Maharashtra-based Foundation for Economic and Ecological Development. Ms. Kolhe represents the Dhivar fishing community in Vidarbha.

The award is in recognition of the critical work of the duo in terms of ecological restoration of waterbodies in the region and empowerment of the Dhivar community. Rajankar and Kolhe would receive the awards at the 21st T.N. Khoshoo Memorial lecture slated to be held on December 3 at the Bangalore International Centre.

The memorial lecture will be delivered by writer Pradeep Krishen. The event will also see book launches, discussions, and a performance by Carnatic vocalist T.M. Krishna.

The award is in recognition of the critical work of the duo in terms of ecological restoration of waterbodies and empowerment of the Dhivar community

Mr. Rajankar, who is also a birder, has been instrumental in reviving the water tanks in eastern Vidarbha with the help of modern science and community knowledge.

According to him, the Gond kings, during the sixteenth century, brought people from the Kohli community from Banaras to build these traditional tanks for irrigation purposes. As per the British records, there were about 12,000 such tanks. After Independence, the government took over the ownership and management of the tanks. This alienated local communities from the tanks, which dwindled to 2,700 over time.

Accessibility was another issue. Not everyone had access to the tanks - especially the Dhivar community, one of the lowest in the social order in the region. Although post-independence, they had obtained fishing rights in the tanks through the fishing cooperative societies, the farmers opposed it.

Mr. Rajankar started his restoration activities in the region in 2007. The activities were scaled up and 12 fishing cooperatives signed up to restore their village tanks. Given the glaring absence of women in these activities and considering the possibility of profit from restoration work ending up in liquor shops due to the alcohol consumption among men in the region, Mr. Rajankar proposed that he would assist in restoration only if women attended the meetings.

Ms Kolhe was among the women who took part in the meetings that followed. She has been instrumental in starting self-help groups, organising the Dhivar women and training them.

MACE in Ladakh opens its one-of-a-kind eye to cosmic gamma rays

MACE's main goal is to study gamma rays with more than 20 billion eV of energy; the telescope can examine gamma rays emitted from beyond the Milky Way; other potential targets include pulsars and blazars; it will also be used to explore a class of hypothetical dark-matter particles

Shreejaya Karantha

The Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) telescope is a state-of-the-art ground-based gamma-ray telescope inaugurated in Hanle, Ladakh, on October 4. Located at around 4.3 km above sea level, it is the highest imaging Cherenkov telescope in the world. It boasts of a 21-metre-wide dish, the largest of its kind in Asia and second-largest in the world.

The facility was built by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, the Electronics Corporation of India Ltd., and the Indian Institute of Astrophysics.

Light comes in a wide range of wavelengths but humans can only see a small portion. In the electromagnetic spectrum, gamma rays have the shortest wavelength and the highest energy, with each light-particle possessing more than 100,000 electron volts. (Visible-light photons have around 1.63-3.26 eV each.)

The blue spot at the centre of the red ring is an isolated neutron star in the Small Magellanic Cloud. Neutron stars are formed after heavy stars go supernova, in the process emitting gamma rays alongside radiation at other energies. ESA/NASA

A strange blue light

Gamma rays are produced by exotic energetic objects in the cosmos, including rapidly spinning pulsars, supernova explosions, hot whirlpools of matter around black holes, and gamma-ray bursts. Because of their high energy, gamma rays are a health hazard. They can damage living cells and may even trigger deleterious mutations in DNA. Fortunately, the earth's atmosphere blocks gamma rays from reaching the ground. Thus, astronomers who want to study objects that emit gamma rays prefer using space observatories – although there are indirect techniques to detect gamma rays with very high energies from the ground.

When a gamma ray from a cosmic source enters the atmosphere, it interacts with molecules in the air to produce a copious shower of electron-positron pairs. As these charged particles travel through the atmosphere at speeds greater than the speed of light in air, they emit a faint blue light, called Cherenkov radiation. This radiation has wavelengths typical of violet and blue light of the visible spectrum and of the ultraviolet wavelength range.

The light is emitted in about a fraction of a second, and the light particles spread out evenly over a vast region on the earth's surface. This region is a suitable place to locate a detector that can collect the photons and study them to indirectly understand the gamma rays. Instruments used for this kind of detection are called imaging atmospheric Cherenkov telescopes (IACTs). The MACE telescope is an IACT.

Strength in numbers

Every IACT has a light collector and a camera. The size of the light collector determines the minimum energy of gamma rays it can detect. MACE's light collector has 356 mirror panels. Each panel consists of four smaller mirrors arranged in a honeycomb structure. These honeycomb arrangements have been shown to be lighter yet more stable than solid mirrors because they reduce the empty space between segments and increase the total reflective area. The James Webb Space Telescope uses honeycomb-segmented mirrors for this reason.

To ensure it can detect gamma rays in the required energy range, MACE's construction and its geographical station were carefully planned. The high-altitude location puts the telescope above disturbances in the lower reaches of the troposphere. MACE is also not housed in a dome because of its large size, leaving its mirrors continuously exposed to the environment. Each mirror is coated with a thin layer of silicon dioxide for protection.

The mirrors are aligned to collect and focus the Cherenkov radiation into the high-resolution camera, which is made up of 1,088 photomultiplier tubes that detect the faint signals and amplify them. All the necessary electronic components for processing and recording data are placed within the camera, including a specialised device that continuously converts signals from photomultiplier tubes into digital data, allowing computers to perform real-time analysis.

The telescope has a moving weight of 180 tonnes. It stands on a base with six wheels that roll along a 27-metre-wide curved track. The drive system that moves the telescope uses an altitude-azimuth mount, meaning the telescope can shift its gaze both vertically and horizontally, to observe all patches of the sky.

MACE's main goal is to study gamma rays with more than 20 billion eV of energy. The telescope can examine high-energy gamma rays emitted from near black holes beyond the Milky Way and which are digesting large volumes of matter. Other potential astrophysical targets include gamma-ray pulsars, blazars, and gamma-ray bursts.

Gamma rays are produced by exotic energetic objects in the cosmos, including rapidly spinning pulsars, supernova explosions, hot whirlpools of matter around black holes, and gamma-ray bursts

One important goal is to find dark matter particles. Dark matter is a type of matter believed to make up more than 85% of the total mass in our universe. It is a fundamental part of the standard model of cosmology – but scientists don't know what subatomic particles it could be made of.

One of the proposed particle constituents of dark matter is weakly interacting massive particles (WIMPs). Scientists have predicted that these particles can produce high-energy gamma rays when they collide into and destroy each other.

These gamma rays could be produced in large galaxy clusters, small galaxies, and/or the centre of large galaxies, including the Milky Way.

India's MACE is the next step

Previous studies have shown that the MACE telescope can help find and measure the high-energy gamma rays produced by WIMPs. This will allow astronomers to learn more about dark matter and the behaviour of WIMPs. But just as likely, MACE could help verify whether WIMPs actually exist and make up dark matter or whether this hypothesis is flawed.

India has been active in gamma-ray astronomy for more than five decades now. The unveiling of the MACE telescope marked a significant step towards further technological and scientific advancements in the field. Most of MACE's subsystems were also built and designed within the country.

With its advanced capabilities, MACE could play an important role in addressing fundamental open questions in the field of high-energy astrophysics and particle physics, and pave the way for cutting-edge research.

(Shreejaya Karantha is a freelance science writer and a content writer and research specialist at The Secrets of The Universe. *shreejayakaranth@gmail.com)*

COP29 President Mukhtar Babayev speaks at the meeting in Baku on November 24. REUTERS

'Toxic chalice' awaits in 2025 after COP29 anticlimax

Reuters

When COP29 President Mukhtar Babayev stepped up to the podium at the close of the climate talks on Sunday, he carried with him two speeches. One was crafted around a deal being struck while the other for the possibility of a summit-collapsing impasse, according to two sources familiar with the matter.

In the end, Mr. Babayev managed to gavel through the $300 billion finance plan to help developing nations cope with the soaring costs of global warming over the next decade before critics had time to object, allowing him to read the more positive speech.

He praised the agreement as a breakthrough even as many of the climate deal's intended recipients slammed it as woefully inadequate.

Expectations for a deal were depressed by worries of a looming U.S. withdrawal from global climate cooperation, geopolitical turmoil, and a rise of isolationist politics that had shunted climate change off much of the world's top priorities list.

Those obstacles loomed large in Baku and will continue to overshadow global climate efforts in the months ahead as Brazil prepares for next year's much broader conference in the Amazonian city of Belem.

The unwillingness of wealthy countries to offer more money for climate finance has become a major source of frustration

Among the biggest factors clouding negotiations was the looming return of Donald Trump as President of the U.S., the largest historical emitter of greenhouse gases and top producer of oil and gas. Mr. Trump, who takes office in January, has pledged to withdraw the U.S. from the global Paris Agreement on climate change and has called climate change a 'hoax'.

The war in Ukraine and rising conflict in West Asia have also diverted global attention to security and energy availability, leading many governments to tighten their purse strings, experts said.

The agreement to provide $300 billion annually by 2035 would theoretically triple rich countries' previous commitments. That earlier goal was reached in full only in 2022 and expires in 2025.

The unwillingness of wealthy countries to offer more money and the pressure to conclude even a weak deal ahead of more political turbulence has become a major source of frustration.

"We came in good faith, with the safety of our communities and the well-being of the world at heart," Tina Stege, the climate envoy for the Marshall Islands, said at the closing plenary. "Yet we have seen the very worst of political opportunism here at this COP, playing games with the lives of the world's most vulnerable people."

Climate advocates said that while the deal is better than an outright impasse, rifts exposed by the conference and the loss of trust in the process among poorer countries will pose a problem for Brazil as it prepares for COP30.

"I think this is a toxic chalice for Belem, and it's going to be up to Brazil how they're going to restore the trust," said Oscar Sorria, director of the Common Initiative, a think tank focused on global financial reform.

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Wonders of the world's smallest continent

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

The Great Dividing Range is the world's largest mountain range that lies within a single country, Australia in this case. The range itself is a _____ system, a word that comes from the Spanish for 'rope', referring to the range's span and structure. Fill in the blank.

QUESTION 2

Australia is one of the world's 17 _____ countries. Other countries on this list include Brazil, India, Indonesia, South Africa, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Fill in the blank.

QUESTION 3

Name the tree species counted among the tallest in the world that grows in the southwest areas of Western Australia. Locally called 'karri', it has been known to grow up to 90 m. Its timber has commercial value.

QUESTION 4

Name the first placental mammal introduced by humans to the Australian continent, roughly 4,000 years ago. Today there's confusion about whether this mammal should be classified as a dog/wolf subspecies, a separate species, or just a different breed.

QUESTION 5

Australia has the world's largest deposit of _____ — nearly one-third — and is the world's third largest producer of it. Almost all of its output is diverted to generate energy. Fill in the blank.

Visual question: Mammals that lay eggs are called monotremes. The world currently has only five living species of monotremes, of which two are found in Australia. One is the platypus. What's the other, shown here? CHARLES J. SHARP (CC BY-SA 4.0)

Answers to November 19 quiz:

1. Largest basaltic plain on the moon – **Ans: Oceanus Procellarum**
2. Asteroid that hosts the mountain Rheasilvia – **Ans: Vesta**
3. Tallest mountain on the earth from base to peak – **Ans: Denali**
4. Solar System's largest multi-ring impact crater – **Ans: Valhalla**
5. Densest and driest moon in the Solar System – **Ans: Io**

Visual: **Hyperion**

First contact

Bharath Viswanathan | Venkat V. | Anmol Agrawal | Namita Sahrawat | Sreekala C.

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Some do it and then some are born to do it.

What's the difference between a vehicle that's made electric,
and one that's born that way?

One is made to do it, one is meant to.

One you've seen before, one is unlike anything you've seen before.

One just about matches industry standards of performance,
one sets a new standard for performance in the industry.

One maximizes space, one sets a new maximum in space.

One has a charging speed that keeps you waiting,
one has the charging speed you've been waiting for.

One has tech that will soon become history,
one has the tech that'll make everything else history.

One has its limits, one has none.

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THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Palestinians killed in Gaza since war began on October 7, 2023

44,235 The number of people killed in Gaza in more than 13 months of war between Israel and Hamas. The toll includes 24 deaths in the previous 24 hours, according to the Hamas-run Health Ministry, which said 1,04,638 people have been wounded in the Gaza Strip since the war began on October 7, 2023. AFP

Number of tigers that died due to unnatural causes since 2021

71 Seventy-one tigers died due to unnatural causes, including poaching and seizures, since 2021, the Environment Ministry said. Responding to a query in the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kirti Vardhan Singh, said Madhya Pradesh reported the highest number of deaths at 20, followed by Maharashtra at 15 and Karnataka at 4. PTI

Years after which Iraq conducted a nation-wide census

37 Iraq's Prime Minister says the country's population has grown to 45.4 million, according to preliminary results from a national census, the first in nearly 40 years. Minority groups also fear that a documented decline in their numbers will bring decreased political influence and fewer economic benefits in the country's sectarian power-sharing system. AP

Death toll from migrant shipwreck off a Greek island

8 Eight persons, including six children, died when a boat carrying migrants sank off the coast of the Greek island of Samos. The coast guard said 36 survivors were found on a rocky shoreline. It was not immediately clear whether others were still missing. Samos and other islands in the eastern Aegean Sea serve as key transit points for migrants entering the European Union illegally from Turkiye. AP

Candidates who lost despite 1 lakh plus votes in Maharashtra

58 Districts such as Pune and Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar witnessed close contests. The Sharad Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party (SP) had 22 such candidates. The Congress had 16 candidates while the Shiv Sena (UBT) accounted for seven. The BJP saw four of its nominees losing despite garnering over one lakh votes. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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On stubble burning and satellite data

How are satellites used to the track farm fires resulting from the stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana? What are the satellites used and how effective are they? Have the farmers worked their way around the tracking methodology?

EXPLAINER

Vasudevan Mukunth

The story so far:

The air quality in the national capital has been struggling to recover from the lows to which it dropped right after Deepavali despite the implementation of GRAP stage IV measures, the active intervention of the Supreme Court, and stop-gap measures by the Delhi government. Many fingers are currently pointed at the farm fires in the surrounding States, where farmers are burning paddy stubble in time for the wheat-sowing season. While these fires are not solely responsible for Delhi's plight, a controversy over measuring their prevalence illustrates the amount of attention they are receiving.

How are the fires counted?

Farmers in Punjab and Haryana sow rice in the kharif season and harvest it in November, using the summer monsoons to quench the crop's high water demand. After the rice is harvested, they need to clear the leftover organic material – called paddy stubble – in order to make way for the next sowing season. For reasons of time and cost, they have traditionally preferred to burn the stubble. But thanks to the winds at this time of the year over the National Capital Region, the toxic particulate matter from the fires is floated to and hangs over New Delhi, dragging its air quality down.

Because of the large area over which farmers light the fires, officials have said satellites are the best way to track the fires. The Indian government currently procures this data from two NASA satellites called Aqua and Suomi-NPP.

NASA launched Aqua in 2002 and it is currently in the twilight stage of its designed lifespan. Its Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) instrument was built to track changes in the lower atmosphere, especially over land, through time. MODIS's technical successor is the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) instrument onboard Suomi-NPP, which NASA launched in 2011. Both satellites are part of NASA's 'Earth Observing System'.

Aqua's and Suomi-NPP's overpass at each location happens at 1:30 p.m. local time in the day and at 1:30 a.m. local time at night. Their MODIS and VIIRS instruments collect visible and infrared images of the earth at around these intervals and are capable of spotting fires and smoke in a small window centred on the overpass time. The Ozone Mapping and Profiler Suite onboard Suomi-NPP can also identify aerosol loads in the atmosphere, which is useful to track smoke from fires and their eventual contribution to air pollution.

What is the new controversy?

On October 2, a senior scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre named Hiren Jethva wrote on X (Twitter) that there were 40% fewer farm fires than predicted in 2023 and expressed hope for the trend to continue this year. On October 24, Mr. Jethva wrote in the same thread that the number of fires in 2024 seemed to be the "lowest in [the] last decade", and added that either "ground efforts to curb residue-burning appear to be working or burning activities [are] taking place after satellite overpass time, but it needs ground-truthing".

His post implied farmers were burning paddy stubble after the Aqua and Suomi-NPP satellites had completed their overpass at around 1.30 pm.

The next day Jethva followed up by comparing data from Aqua and Suomi-NPP with data from the GEO-KOMPSAT 2A satellite. South Korea launched this satellite, also called Cheollian 2A, in 2018 as a "dedicated geostationary weather satellite"; it's currently stationed at 128.2° E and has a planned mission life of at least a decade.

In the visuals Mr. Jethva collected and presented from the three satellites, the smoke cover over cropland in Punjab and Haryana seemed to thicken after Aqua and Suomi-NPP had completed their overpass, as if farmers were lighting more fires later in the day from before.

The senior scientist also wrote that the quantity of aerosols in the air was roughly the same as in previous years whereas it should have been lower given Aqua and Suomi-NPP indicated there were fewer fires.

Is the discrepancy real?

In 2020, the Indian government created the Commission for Air Quality Management in the NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM for short) by ordinance and a subsequent Act of Parliament in 2021. Its mandate was to study, identify, and resolve issues relevant to improving air quality in its jurisdiction.

On Saturday, *The Hindu* reported based on multiple sources and documents that the CAQM was aware farmers were burning paddy stubble after the NASA satellites had completed their overpass to avoid being detected. However the CAQM has continued to insist in the public that the number of farm fires has dropped, defending its conclusion in the face of contrary evidence by claiming it used different formulae.

That farmers were aware of the overpass timings is recorded in the minutes of a March 7, 2024, meeting, where director of Haryana Space Applications Centre Sultan Singh and National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) scientist Bhavana Sahay alleged as much. Farmers on the ground also told *The Hindu* a government official had asked them to light fires after 4 p.m.

(The alleged advice echoes Goodhart's law: "when a measure becomes a target, it ceases to be a good measure".)

The CAQM has also come under the pump from a second angle: in affidavits to the Supreme Court, it has said the burnt area in Punjab shrunk 26.5% between 2022 and 2023 whereas data from the Government of Punjab and the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, which is funded by the Centre, says it increased 24% and 15% respectively.

How is the government responding?

The Centre had originally created the CAQM to replace the Environmental Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA), which the Supreme Court had created in 1998. EPCA was a non-statutory body and lacked the instruments to sanction non-compliant actors. CAQM was designed to have teeth in the 2021 Act – and which it has since been accused of not wielding.

The Supreme Court in particular has upbraided the CAQM for failing to mitigate air pollution resulting from the fires over the years. The body was expected to respond on November 25 to the Supreme Court to allegations that it was aware farmers were delaying burns to after the satellites' overpass.The Indian government is also on the back foot after Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said on October 26 that the number of stubble-burning incidents have dropped this year.

But the CAQM has also maintained that its efforts have lowered the prevalence of fires by 71% in Punjab and 44% in Haryana between 2020 and 2024, and has objected to the idea of a group of retired judges overseeing the fight against stubble-burning.

The CAQM also said it wrote to the NRSC – a body under the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) – asking it to develop a standard protocol to measure burnt area in January 2024. At present, burnt area data is available once every five days from the Sentinel II satellites of the European Space Agency.

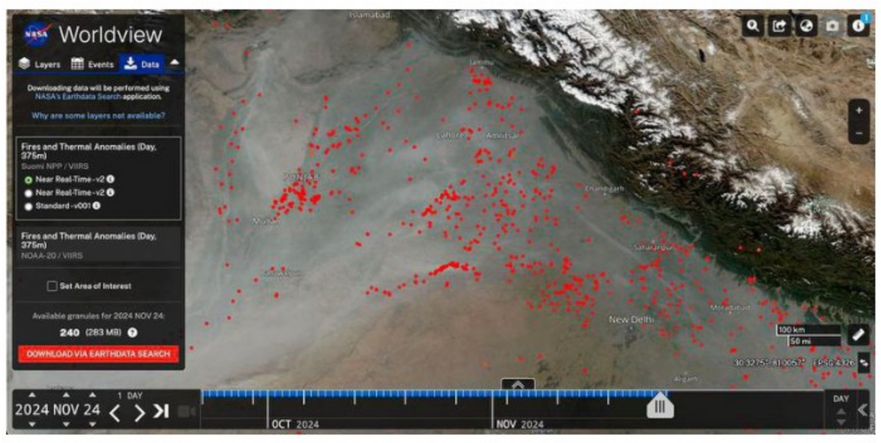
Can Indian satellites help?

In an affidavit to the Supreme Court on November 21, the CAQM said ISRO plans to evaluate the usability of data from various satellites to identify farm fires. According to the affidavit, ISRO experts are of the view that data from INSAT-3DR (by India), GEO-KOMPSAT 2-AMI (South Korea), Meteosat-9, Feng Yun-4A/4B (China), and HIMAWARI-8 (Japan) cannot provide accurate fire counts – although their assessments will not be complete for at least another month.

The problem with INSAT-3DR is that its data is too coarse: of 1 km in visible and short-wave infrared radiation, of 4 km in middle and thermal infrared, and of 8 km for water vapour. In August 2021, ISRO had launched another satellite that could have been useful in this context, GISAT-1, but the GSLV-F10 mission carrying it failed after the rocket's upper stage failed to fire.

ISRO also operates the three RESOURCESAT satellites, launched in 2003, 2011, and 2016, with similar payloads. Those in RESOURCESAT 2A have better features, however. The Linear Imaging Self Scanner (LISS) cameras 3 and 4, both of which 'see' in visible and near-infrared radiation; LISS-4 has a spatial resolution of 5.8 m and LISS-3, of 23.5 m. The Advanced Wide Field Sensor (AWiFS) camera detects similar radiation at an even lower resolution of 56 m.

Billowing trouble: Stubble being burnt at a paddy field on the outskirts of Amritsar in Punjab earlier this month. PTI



THE GIST

Because of the large area over which farmers light the fires, officials have said satellites are the best way to track the fires. The Indian government currently procures this data from two NASA satellites called Aqua and Suomi-NPP.

While satellite data showed that there was a reduction in farm fires, the smoke cover over cropland in Punjab and Haryana seemed to thicken after the satellites had completed their overpass and the quantity of aerosols in the air was roughly the same as in previous years

The Commission for Air Quality Management in the NCR and Adjoining Areas was expected to respond on November 25 to the Supreme Court to allegations that it was aware farmers were delaying burns to after the satellites' overpass.

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NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Scope of Work	Due date
242513 004709	Fixing Contractors for Loading & Transportation of Eucalyptus Pulpwood from APFDC to TNPL Unit - I & Unit - II for the year 2024-25.	03.12.2024
Email	242513004709 - purchase.wood@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website only. Detailed requirements, Period, Terms & conditions, Tender fee, EMD, etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from website : **www.tnpl.com**

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No:KSMSCL/EQPT/HFW/CI-SCHEME/OAE/TND/23/2024-25 (IND-0181)(E158688) Date: 25-11-2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref: 1) Tender Notification No: **KSMSCL/EQPT/HFW/CI-SCHEME/OAE/TND/23/2024-25 (IND-0181)(E158688), Date: 25.11.2024.**

2) Tender Notification No: **KSMSCL/EQPT/HFW/MH/NST/TND/22/2024-25 (IND-0182)(E138401), Date: 25.11.2024.**

Nationwide Tender is invited through **e-Tendering system** under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the following tenders:

1) **Tender for Supply of OAE Analyzer Under Family Welfare Programme.**
2) **Tender for Supply of NST Machine with ECG extraction Technology Along with Ultrasound Based Technology Under Maternal Health Programme.**

The tenderers who have registered under e-Procurement department may participate through e-tendering system.

Details regarding EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information are available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded from the website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 25-11-2024.** The eligible tenderers shall submit their e-tenders under e-procurement platform for above mentioned tender. Further information if any may be obtained from this office.

Sd/- Managing Director KSMSCL, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/3422/Adverto/2024-25

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Office of the Executive Engineer,
Electrical Division, South Zone, 9th Main, 9th Cross,
Jayanagar 2nd Block, Bangalore 560011

No: EE/ELE/S/TEND/07/2024-25 **Dated: 25-11-2024**

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT) CALL-3

(Through GoK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

Executive Engineer (Elect), South Zone, invites Tenders in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible contractors registered in Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike/ KPWD/ CPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any other equivalent central/state government organizations on behalf of the Chief commissioner, BBMP for Electrical work as detailed in the table below.

S.N.	Name of the Work
1	Upgradation of HT Installation in Kalasipalya Vegitable Market in ward no 161. (3rd Call). **EST Cost**: Rs.40.00 Lakhs. **EMD:** Rs.67061/-.

Calendar of events: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal from 26-11-2024. b) Bids must be submitted online through the e-procurement portal on or before 03-12-2024 by 16:00 hrs. c) The Tenders will be opened on 04-12-2024 at 16:30 Hrs.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, South Zone

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its Owners namely, **(1)Smt.Sharadamma W/o late C.Narayanaswamy Naidu and her children namely, (2)Smt.Lalitha, (3)Smt.C.Ambuja, (4)Smt.N.Rajalakshmi (5) Smt.N.Leela,** and legal heirs of late N. Nagarathna (D/o late C.Narayanaswamy Naidu) namely, **(6)Sri.M.Srinivasulu Naidu, (7)Sri.Sujith.M and (8)M.Harshita** residing at No.44/14, 3rd Main Road, Sunkenahalli Mount Joy Extension, Hanumanthanagar, Bangalore – 560 019.

Apart from the said Owners, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Municipal No.14 (Old No.44), P.I.D.No.53-121-14, E.P.I.D. No.9308586258, measuring East to West: (58+54)/2 ft and North to South: (44+59)/2 ft, in all measuring 2884 Sq.ft, together with an old building thereon, situated at 3rd Main Road, Mount Joy Road, Srinagar, Bangalore, within the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Ward No.164 – (Vidyapeetha Ward) and bounded on:

East by : Site No.43;
West by : Road;
North by : Site No.45; and
South by : Road.

Sd/- **S.F.Goutam Chand**
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004.

University Of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore

Estate Office, GKVK

No. EO/TN/9/2024-25, Dated: 20-11-2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Kpp Portal only)

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore has invited Tender in the prescribed form as per Standard Tender Document KW1 & KW2 from the registered KPWD/PWD/Contractors for the work Sl. No.1 to 7. The details of the notification, tender document, specifications are available in the website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The cost of tender document is as per e-procurement portal. The EMD has to be paid in the Kpp Portal using Kpp payment modes.

The above works are under Two Cover system. The details for two cover system is to be uploaded as per Standard Tender Document.

The Blank Tender Documents can be down loaded from **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Last date and time for uploading is **30.11.2024 upto 4.00 p.m.** The Technical Bid will be opened on **03.12.2024 at 10.30 a.m.** The Financial Bid will be opened on **05.12.2024 at 10.30 a.m.** For more details please contact e-portal help desk at **support@eprochelpdesk.com or 8046010000/8068948777** on working days and this office during working hour, Phone No.**080-23332765.**

Sd/-
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TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Registrar (Evaluation) University of Mysore invites **Short term tender** from eligible bidders for the supply of Approximately 500 Gold Medals for 105th Annual Convocation. The tender indents are as follows:
MU/EB/Gold Medal/2024-25/IND**0040**
The Last date for Submission is 30-11-2024 for more details bidders may visit http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in for more clarification bidders may contact 0821-2419213/450 during office hours.

DIPR/DDMYS-852/KSMCA-852/2024-25 **Sd/- Registrar (Evaluation)**

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. Y/E.29/2024-25/67
Dated : 12-11-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
(Re-tender) Assistant Divisional Engineer / Sakleshpur Sub-Division : Provision of Additional Height Gauges on approaches with Superstructure of Steel Girder at RUB No. 20, 366, 473, 484, 500, 539 and 577	Rs. 7,04,803.48

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs on 03-12-2024

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer / General
PUB/588/AAS/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Mysuru**
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

பெரியார் பல்கலைக்கழகம் PERIYAR UNIVERSITY

State University - NAAC Accredited 'A++' Grade - NIRF Rank '56' State Public University Rank '25'
SALEM - 636 011, TAMIL NADU, INDIA
Phone : 0427-2345766, 2346268, 2346269 /Fax: 0427-2345124

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the following posts

Sl. No.	Advertisement No.	Name of the Post	Academic Level	Vacancy
01.	PU/R6/REG/ Advt./11/2024	REGISTRAR	Academic Level 14 with rationalized entry pay of Rs.1,44,200/-	1 (One) GT
02.	PU/R6/COE/ Advt./12/2024	CONTROLLER OF EXAMINATIONS		1 (One) GT
03.	PU/R6/CDOE/ Advt./13/2024	DIRECTOR FOR CDOE		1 (One) GT

Refer our website, at **www.periyaruniversity.ac.in** for details. The last date for receipt of the filled-in application along with its enclosures is **16.12.2024 by 4.00 p.m.** The University reserves the right to fill up or not to fill the vacancies notified.

Place: Salem – 636 011.
Date: 26.11.2024 DIPR/1178/Display/2024 **REGISTRAR(FAC)**

Government of Karnataka
(Water Resources Department)
Irrigation Projects, CADA Division, Kalaburagi
Address : Plot No.21, Kotanur Dhariapura Road, G. D. A. Layout, 3rd Main Road, "B" Bock, Kalaburagi-585102, e-mail: eecadaipglb@gmail.com

No.EE/CADA/Kal-Div/PB-1, 3/2024-25/843 Date : 22-11-2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through e-procurement portal only) (Two Cover System)

On behalf of The Administrator, Irrigation Projects Zone, CADA, Kalaburagi, The Executive Engineer, Irrigation Projects,CADA. Division Kalaburagi has invited tenders for civil work from qualified contractors, the details of which are as follows.
1) Details of work: **Formation of Ayacut Roads, 2 Package Works,** 2) Head of Account: **4705,** 3) Amount put to tender: **1) Rs. 70,07,190.46 + 18% GST, 2) Rs. 76,79,046.53 + 18% GST,** 4) Eligibility of Contractor: KPWD Class-III and above, 5) Time limit for access to e-procurement portal : **From 26.11.2024 To 06.12.2024 upto 5.00 PM,** 6) Cost of Tender Application and E.M.D. amount: As per e-procurement portal, 7) The last date & time for receipt of tenders: **06.12.2024 Up to 5.00 PM**, 8) Date & Time for opening of Technical bid: **09.12.2024 at 11.00 AM**, 8) Date & Time for opening of Financial bid: **16.12.2024 at 11.00 AM**, 9) For tender queries and clarification: Executive Engineer, Irrigation Projects, CADA Division, Kalaburagi, 10) Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Irrigation Projects, CADA Division, Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/649/KSMC&A/2024-25

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PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, MELINDA Arora, W/O: Anand Mahesh Arora, R/O : A–2001, Myhna Maple, S.H.–35, Varthur, Varthur P.O., Blr – 87, Have Changed My Name As Melinda Anand Arora Vide Afdvt Dtd 20/11/2024

I, ANAND Arora, S/O: Mahesh Chandra Arora, R/O: A–2001, Myhna Maple, S.H.–35, Varthur, Varthur P.O, Blr– 87, Have Changed My Name As Anand Mahesh Arora Vide Afdvt Dtd 20/11/2024

I, FAIZA, W/o Aqeeb Ahmed Shaikh, R/a No.14, 9th Cross, Kalpataru Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore North, Bengaluru-560016 have changed my name to Faiza Mohiddin Ahmed Sab vide affidavit dt: 23.11.2024 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bangalore.

I, SHYAMA Devi M/O JC-329749 L Sub Maj Awadhesh Kumar Serving in ADMC M.S.Nagar, Bangalore-560033 have changed My name from Shyam Devi to Shyama Devi & My DOB 01-07-1948 wrongly mentioned. The correct DOB: 01-01-1947 vide Affi. Dt. 10-09-2024 sworn to before advocate and Notary Smt Manorma Sharma, Agra-282001

I, AKRATI Bhadauria D/O JC-329749 L Sub Maj Awadhesh Kumar Serving in ADMC M.S.Nagar, Bangalore-560033 have changed My name from Akruti Bhadauria to Akrati Bhadauria vide Affi. Dt. 10-09-2024 sworn to before advocate and Notary Smt Manorma Sharma, Agra-282001

I, PAVITRA (D-O-B: 21/06/1993), W/o. C. Vinay, R/@ No. 94, 4th Cross Road, Kalidasa Layout, Srinagar, Banashankari, Bengaluru-560050 India, have changed my name from Pavitra to Pavitra Madinoor, vide Affidavit No. 653/Pg. No.78/Vol. No.13, dated: 25/11/2024, sworn to before Notary Public, K. H. Jagadish, Bangalore.

I, KRISHNA Murthy, father of Mukesh Kumar K resident of 226/7 MAP Qtrs CHAFB Agram Post, Bengaluru-07 have changed my name from Krishna Murthy to Krishnamurthy T vide affidavit dt 18-11-2024 before the notary AR Muneer Ahmed Bengaluru.

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, S Omana Ammal, Mother of Mukesh Kumar K resident of 226/7 MAP Qtrs CHAFB Agram Post, Bengaluru-07 have changed my name from S Omana Ammal to Omana Ammal vide affidavit dt 18-11-2024 before the notary AR Muneer Ahmed Bengaluru.

I, MUKESH Kumar K resident of 226/7 MAP Qtrs CHAFB Agram Post, Bengaluru-07 have changed my son's name from Riaan Krishna to Riaan Mukesh Krishna vide affidavit dt 18-11-2024 before the notary AR Muneer Ahmed Bengaluru.

I, PRAKASHA Hosahalli Channe Gowda, S/o Channegowda, R/at No.45/46, Flat No.105, 1st Floor, 3rd Main Road, Poornaprajna Layout, Panchamukhi Pride, Bengaluru-560061, have changed my name from Prakasha Hosahalli Channe Gowda to Prakash.H.C vide Affidavit dated 21/11/2024 sworn before Notary L. Gopalakrishna,Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **RINNIE RAMESH,** D/o Sri. Ramesh Srinivasan,aged about 33 years, Premanently R/at Flat No. 31/12, MIG Block BDA Apartment, Nandini Layout, Bengaluru-560 096, Currently R/at Al Moosawi, Oriental Building, 603, Dubai, UAE. Hereby declare that, I have changed my minor daughter's (Date of Birth 24.01.2016) name from **'MICKAYLA RIANA ROSS'** to **"RIANA RAMESH VIRCHENKO".** Vide Affidavit dated 20.11.2024, Sworn before Advocate and Notary Akhilesh B, Bangalore.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

I, RAVI KUMAR.J, S/o. Late Jayachandra Babu, R/at No. 8/1, 2nd Cross, Kanakadasa Layout, Lingarajapuram, Bangalore 560084 hereby declare that I am resigning my post as President of M/s. ST LUKE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY and Vice – President of M/s. STAR TRACK ATHLETIC CLUB, with immediate effect declared through affidavit dated 25–11–2024, sworn before notary T.V.Chandrashekara Reddy.

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LEGAL NOTICE

BEFORE THE HON'BLE FAMILY COURT, ERNAKULAM
OP.NO.3548/2022
MC No. 168/2022
OP.NO. 200/2024

PETITIONER
Anjaly Krishna Rao, aged 29 years, D/o. Kesava Krishna Rao, W/o. Karthikeyan.A, Krishna Vihar, Kannankulangara,Thripunithura P.O. Ernakulam Dist. 682301

RESPONDENT
Karthikeyan A., S/o. Anantha krishnan, aged 34 years, Flat No.108, 1733 Kundalahalli Gate, Padmavathy Paradise, BEML Layout, Tigalarpalya, Brookefield, Bengaluru, Karnataka State -560066

COURT NOTICE

The above named respondent in the above cases OP.No.3548/2022 (Divorce), MC 168/2022 (Maintenance) and OP 200/2024 (Return of Ornaments) may take notice that the above mentioned cases has ordered substituted service by affixture and publication is ordered by this court and are posted on 23.12.2024 at 11.00 am for your appearance before the Family Court, Ernakulam. Take notice that if you fail to appear on that date, the case will be decided exparte in your absence.

Sandhya Veni
Counsel for the Petitioner

BEFORE THE HON'BLE COMMERCIAL COURT, ERNAKULAM
C.M.A. (Arb.) No. 170 of 2023

Petitioner
J & P Sand and Aggregates International Pvt. Ltd. Having its registered office at 3/546, St. Antonys Shopping Complex, Kizhakkambalam Ernakulam- 683562. Represented by its Managing Director Peter Joseph, S/o Joseph Chacko aged 50 years, residing at Punchapthussery, Kizhakabalam P.O, Ernakulam, 683562

Vs.

Respondent
Abdul Eazack, S/o M.P. Mohammed Haji, Aged 54 years residing at parnakutira, near 1st Railway bridge, Nagabana road, Mangalor taluk, South Canara District, Karnataka

NOTICE

This is to put to public notice that J & P Sand and Aggregates International Pvt. Ltd. having its registered office at 3/546, St. Antony's Shopping Complex, Kizhakkambalam Ernakulam - 683562 represented by its Managing Director Peter Joseph, S/o Joseph Chacko aged 50 years, residing at Punchapthussery, Kizhakabalam P.O, Ernakulam, 683562 made an application for attachment of Properties situated in Sy. No. 121/2 and Sy. No. 121/5 of Bettadathunga Village, Periyapatna Taluk, Mysore district, Karnataka. If anybody had any objection for the same they shall appear before this Court on 12/12/24 and submit their objection

Dated this the 26th day of September, 2024

Sd/- S. Sreedev,
Counsel of the Petitioner

THE HINDU IN SCHOOL PRESENTS SCHOOL BUZZ
A Newspaper exclusively curated for School Students

'YUVA SHRUSHTI'

Holy Spirit School and PU College hosted "Yuva Shrushti," a mega exhibition themed "Together Towards a Sustainable World." The event showcased students' innovative projects, eco-friendly products, and practical solutions across streams such as Humanities, Commerce, Mathematics, Science, and Art and Craft, addressing environmental challenges and promoting sustainable living. Distinguished guests included Dr Jacob Crasta, founder of CM Envirosystems; Sr Ida Lobo, President; Sr Treesa Rebello, Correspondent; Sr Shanthi, Principal of Holy Spirit School CISCE; and Ms Limna Justine, Principal of Holy Spirit School and PU College.

VISIT TO BIOMEDICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING SYSTEM LAB

PM SHRI Kendriya Vidyalaya, Malleswaram, Class XII students visited the Department of Biomedical and Electronic Engineering System Lab at IISc as part of the PM SHRI Scheme. The visit included a session by Dr Hardik Pandya, who enlightened students on neurobiology research and patents, inspiring them to consider research as a profession. Students explored four advanced labs in electronics and biomedical fields, gaining hands-on experience and enhancing their understanding of cutting-edge developments in science and technology.

AURUM 2024

St. Joseph's Boys' High School hosted Aurum 2024, a celebration of innovation and unity in collaboration with Loyola Technology Centre, Learn for Life Foundation, and Joy Thomas Foundation. Over 150 students from Jesuit schools across Karnataka participated in events like research presentations, engineering challenges, quizzes, and treasure hunts, fostering creativity and camaraderie. Chief Guest Dr Thomas K. Phillip spoke on the intersection of technology, education, and the future, while Guest of Honour Mr Shashi Kiran inspired students with insights on values and success. Aurum 2024 embodied the spirit of excellence, creating lasting memories and connections for all.

For Subscription related queries, please contact Raghavendra Desai:
Handphone:+91 9986196254 | Email: desai.rnb@thehindu.co.in

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND SECRETARY
KARNATAKA BUILDING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION WORKERS' WELFARE BOARD
Kalyana Suraksha Bhavana, ITI Compound, Bannerughatta Road, Bengaluru-560029.
Office : 080-29753350, Email: **karbuildworkerswelfare@gmail.com**

No. KBOCWWB/E-Auction/FD-2/CR-04/2024-25 **Date : 25.11.2024**

E-AUCTION NOTIFICATION

Sub: Inviting E-Auction for interest rate bids on Investment of Surplus Funds in Fixed Deposit/ Non-callable for one year through E-Portal, Government of Karnataka..

Board is inviting competitive rate of interest through e-bidding on the KPPP portal of Govt. of Karnataka from the Regional / Zonal / Head Offices of the Nationalized banks for Non-callable Fixed / Term Deposits of 'Surplus funds' of **Rs. 500.00 to 600.00 crore (Rupees Five Hundred to Six Hundred crore only)** for one year.

E-Auction documents should be submitted electronically through e-Procurement portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/)**

Sl. No.	Approx. Amount	Last date for uploading the documents
1	500.00 crores to 600 Crores	02.12.2024 before 16:00 Hrs.

For further information please contact Accounts Officer of the Board Phone: 080-29753350/54/56, Mob: 9164759606 during office hours.

Sd/-
Joint Secretary, KB&OCWWB

DIPR/CP/3414/Zen/2024-25

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

अति अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई– निविदा सूचना संख्या – **RDD/SD/CHAIBASA/14/2024-25(2nd Call) (MMGSY)**

1. कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी :

क्र० सं०	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	अग्रधन की राशि	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	पश्चिमी सिंहभूम जिला के चक्रधरपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत केरा पंचायत के जनुमबेड़ा में ब्रहमणी नदी पर पुल निर्माण।	50797300.00	1016000.00	10000.00	24 माह
2	पश्चिमी सिंहभूम (चाईबासा) जिला के आनन्दपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत ग्राम आनन्दपुर बाजार टांड में उच्चस्तरीय पुलिया का निर्माण।	29920000.00	599000.00	10000.00	18 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – 28.11.2024
3. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय–दिनांक 28.11.2024 से दिनांक 03.12.2024 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक
4. ई–निविदा खोलने का स्थान – कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेश प्रमण्डल, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।
5. ई–निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय –.04.12.2024 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे
6. ई–निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :– कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा
7. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं० – 8709623131 (संबंधित कार्यपालक अभियंता का दूरभाष नम्बर)
8. परिमाण विपत्र की राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है तद्नुसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी।
9. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि केवल व्दसपदम डवकम द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।
10. निविदा खोलने की तिथि से 5 दिनों के अन्दर निविदादाता द्वारा अपनी आपत्ति/दावा दर्ज कराये अन्यथा अवधि बीतने के पश्चात् कोई भी आपत्ति /दावा मान्य नहीं होगा।
11. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही आपकी होगी।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

ह०/– कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल,
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

PR 340270 West Singhbhum (24-25)_D

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, No.1 T.R.Division, Munirabad.

EE/KNNL/No.1/TRD/Labour Tender/ 2024-25/3058 **Date:20.11.2024**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Only through e-procurement system)(Two Cover)

Tenders in Electronic mode on "**PERCENTAGE BASIS"** are invited in KPP-Portal on behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore, by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, No-1 T R Division, Munirabad, Koppal District., in **Two cover system (cover I and cover II),** under H/A 2701 under Headworks sub-division, Munirabd, No.1 Canal sub-division, Kampli & VNC Canals sub-division, Kamalapura for the work **1)** Supply of Man power for Camp, T B Dam and Office Building, coming under the preview of Head works Sub Division, Munirabad, for the year 2023-24 (12 Months), for **92.65 Lakhs**, **2)** Supply of Man power for water Maintenance of Camp, LBHLC, Supply of man power for watch , ward & water management of Narihalla project coming under the preview of Head works Sub Division, Munirabad, for the year 2024-25 (12 Months) for **100.13 Lakhs**, **3)** Supply of Man power for water Maintanance of Lake view and Indira Bhavan guest houses, and sanitation section and watch, ward & water management of Hagaribommanahalli project coming under the purview of Head works Sub Division, Munirabad, for the year 2024-25 (12 Months) for **102.11 Lakhs 4)** Supply of Man power for water maintenance and management of canlas, Daroji tank and office under jurisdiction of No 1 canal subdivision Kampli (for the period of 7,9 & 12 Months) for the year 2023-24 for **128.71 Lakhs 5)** Supply of Man power for water maintenance and management of canals under Jurisdiction of VNC Sub Division Kamlapur including Kamlapur office building Kamalapur ID colony for the year 2023-24 (12months) for **133.92 Lakhs**. The Pre bid meeting will be held on **28.11.2024 @ 11.00 A.M.** at Chief Engineer, KNNL, ICZ Munirabd office, Last date for submission of tender documents upto **02.12.2024 at 4.00 P.M** & Date of opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I) on **03.12.2024 at 4.30 P.M** For more information visit web site at (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) & contact undersigned office in all working days during office hours and also via email: **trdmrb@gmail.com**.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
KNNL No.1 T.R.Division, Munirabad

DIPR/Koppal/563/KSMCA/2024-25

A BG-BGE

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Constitution has always been secular both in spirit and in letter

Many, such as former Home Minister Rajnath Singh, have cited that the original text of 1949 did not have the word 'secularism' in it, but the principle has been implicit in the constitutional framework since the start, though it was officially introduced only through the 42nd Amendment in 1977

A child pays tribute to B.R. Ambedkar during the Constitution Day celebrations organised by the TDP in Mangalagiri. THE HINDU

Sanjay Hegde

In light of the Supreme Court judgement affirming secularism and socialism in the Preamble of the Constitution, here is an Op-Ed piece published in The Hindu in 2016 that dealt with the role of secularism throughout the history of the Constitution and the Constituent Assembly.

On November 26, Constitution Day, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh bemoaned in Parliament that secularism was the "most misused" term in the country. "The framers of the Constitution did not include the words 'secular' and 'socialist' because these values were (already) part of Indian civilisation," said Mr. Singh. He was essentially voicing a belief that secularism was alien to the Constitution, and that it was only during the Emergency that secularism stealthily crept into the Constitution. That belief, though popular, is not quite right.

The framers of the Constitution worked against the backdrop of two great instances of human carnage – World War II and the Partition of India. Both were the result of an insistence on distinctiveness of group identities and their consequent territorial demarcations, which excluded those who did not fall within the dominant group. Simultaneously, the process of integration of princely states meant that people not exposed to even limited democracy became voters of a republic that promised justice, liberty, equality and fraternity for all. In a nascent republic, where power had for the first time been vested in the diverse, heterogenous people of the subcontinent, the Constituent Assembly became a trustee and demarcator of the extent of that power. The document that they produced after two years of intense debate and labour had words of comfort for everyone.

A constitutional value

Secularism is implicit in the entire constitutional framework. What does secularism in the Indian Constitution mean? The question admits of no easy answer and cannot be restricted to textual interpretation alone. It is a constitutional value that seeks to manage India's diverse and plural society, in an atmosphere of cohesiveness of national purpose.

The guarantee of equality in Article 14; the promise of non-discrimination in Articles 15 and 16; protection from religious taxes and religious instruction in state-funded institutions set in Articles 27 and 28; the permission of educational institutions of choice to linguistic and religious minorities in Articles 29 and 30; the promise of equal ballots devoid of sectional preferences in Article 325 – all make for a constitutional architecture which is devoid of any religious preference whatsoever. God is significantly absent throughout the Constitution.

There are however provisions which seek to enforce equality within the Hindu religion in Articles 17 and 25(2)(b). Deference to Hindu sentiments on cow slaughter is also provided for in Article 48, as is the pious hope for a uniform civil code in Article 44. Taken as a whole package, the constitutional vision of secularism is one of principled equidistance from all religious matters, while at the same time regulating its practice in a manner consistent with the demands of a modern society. Crucially, in Article 25(2)(a), we can find constitutional permission for the state to regulate or restrict "any economic, financial, political or other secular activity which may be associated with religious practice".

Debate over amendment

Thus, it is fallacious to argue that the original Constitution as adopted, enacted and given to ourselves on November 26, 1949, was not a secular document. The inclusion in the Preamble of the words "socialist" and "secular" by the 42nd Amendment on January 3, 1977, only headlined what was already present in the original text of the Constitution. We must also remember that the Preamble itself was drafted only after the Constitution was approved by the Constituent Assembly. The Preamble thus became a one-page mission statement of the republic's intent.

In fact, there is an illuminating discussion in the Constituent Assembly debates of November 15, 1949, when Professor K.T. Shah wanted to include the words "secular, federal, socialist" in Article 1 of the Constitution, the article that now reads, "India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States..."

Prof. Shah said, "As regards the secular character of the state, we have been told time and again from every platform that ours is a secular state. If that is true, if that holds good, I do not see why the term could not be added or inserted in the Constitution itself, once again, to guard against any possibility of misunderstanding or misapprehension... The secularity of the state must be stressed in view not only of the unhappy experiences we had last year and in the years before and the excesses to which, in the name of religion, communalism or sectarianism can go, but I intend also to emphasise by this description the character and nature of the state which we are constituting today...."

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, in reply, said, "Mr. Vice-President, Sir, I regret that I cannot accept the amendment of Prof. K.T. Shah. My objections, stated briefly, are two. In the first place the Constitution, as I stated in my opening speech in support of the motion I made before the House, is merely a mechanism for the purpose of regulating the work of the various organs of the state. It is not a mechanism whereby particular members or particular parties are installed in office. What should be the policy of the state, how the society should be organised in its social and economic side, are matters which must be decided by the people themselves according to time and circumstances. It cannot be laid down in the Constitution itself, because that is destroying democracy altogether. If you state in the Constitution that the social organisation of the state shall take a particular form, you are, in my judgment, taking away the liberty of the people to decide what should be the social organisation in which they wish to live. It is perfectly possible today for the majority people to hold that the socialist organisation of society is better than the capitalist organisation of society. But it would be perfectly possible for thinking people to devise some other form of social organisation which might be better than the socialist organisation of today or of tomorrow. I do not see therefore why the Constitution should tie down the people to live in a particular form and not leave it to the people to decide it for themselves. This is one reason why the amendment should be opposed. The second reason is that the amendment is purely superfluous. My honourable friend, Professor Shah, does not seem to have taken into account the fact that apart from the Fundamental Rights, which we have embodied in the Constitution, we have also introduced other sections which deal with Directive Principles of State Policy... What I would like to ask Professor Shah is this: If these directive principles to which I have drawn attention are not socialistic in their direction and in their content, I fail to understand what more socialism can be. Therefore my submission is that these socialist principles are already embodied in our Constitution and it is unnecessary to accept this amendment."

Prof. Shah's amendment was defeated but two things stand out in this exchange. First, the economist in Dr. Ambedkar dominated his exchange with Prof. Shah. He only discussed the economic philosophy of the Constitution and did not deal with the questions of secularism and federalism. Second, he felt that what was already explicit in the Constitution need not be reiterated.

Basic structure

On April 24, 1973, the Supreme Court, with its then full strength of 13 judges, ruled in the Kesavananda Bharati case that secularism was part of the basic structure of the Constitution. It also held that elements constituting the basic structure were beyond Parliament's power to amend the Constitution. The court reiterated this principle in 1994 in the S.R. Bommai case when dealing with the challenge to the dismissal of four Bharatiya Janata Party-ruled State governments after the demolition of the Babri Masjid.

Despite the Constitution's secular nature being held to be part of its basic structure, matters did not rest. During the Emergency came the 42nd Amendment on January 3, 1977. Apart from many significant changes otherwise, it resurrected Prof. Shah's cosmetic suggestion and inserted the word "secular" in the Preamble. After the Emergency, the 44th Amendment by the Janata government undid most of the substantial damage achieved by the 42nd Amendment. But it, too, chose to preserve the addition of the words "socialist" and "secular" to the Preamble.

The Law Minister who piloted the 44th Amendment was Shanti Bhushan. His colleagues in the ministry were L.K. Advani and A.B. Vajpayee. Their inheritors today cannot presume to forget constitutional history, and assume that constitutional values such as secularism are just meaningless words to be redacted from a document. Secularism is inherent in the basic structure of the national book, and is beyond the power of any transient parliamentary majority to efface or abridge.

(Sanjay Hegde is a Supreme Court lawyer.)

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subramanian

"Hi!' What is the meaning of 'glitterati'?"

"You know the meaning of 'literati'?"

"No."

"Literati" means men of letters, learned people. It is related to words like literature, literate. It is plural noun, the first 'i' is pronounced like the 'i' in 'hit', the 'e' is pronounced like the 'a' in 'India', the 'a' is pronounced like the 'a' in 'fast' and the final 'i' like the 'ee' in 'feel'. The stress is on the third syllable 'ra'. The stars that glitter in the literary sky are called the glitterati. It is also used to refer to famous people in the entertainment field. The word is a combination of glitter and literati. But please note that in 'glitterati', the final 'i' is pronounced like the 'i' in 'sit'. The stress is on 'ra'.

"So it refers to the glittering people in the field of literature and entertainment."

"Yes. The word was used for the first time in this sense in Time magazine in 1956. Nowadays the word is used to refer to successful people in any field. It is no longer restricted to show business and literature. You can talk about the glitterati in the field of politics, business and so on."

"There is a word 'glitzy', isn't there?"

"Yes. It means extravagant but superficial display of anything. It has a pejorative connotation. It was originally used in show-business. When you say that a play is glitzy, it means it is gaudy, flashy. The word is from German 'glitzerig', which means 'glittering'. Perhaps 'glitzy' was formed on the analogy of 'ritzy'."

"What is ritzy?"

" 'Ritzy' is from 'Ritz', a nineteenth century Swiss hotelier who established luxury hotels in different parts of the world. The hotels are called 'Ritz'. 'To put on the ritz' means 'to behave haughtily, live in style'. From 'ritz' we get 'ritzy'. It can either mean 'having class, stylish or glamorous' or 'pretentious, ostentatiously smart'. Only the context will tell you whether the word is used as a compliment or not. The 'z' in 'ritzy' is pronounced like the 'z' in 'zebra'; some pronounce it 's'. Both are acceptable. But the 'z' in 'glitzy' is pronounced like the 's' in 'simple'.

"By the way, 'simpleton' is used by some to mean 'simple, unsophisticated'. Is it correct?"

"No. A simpleton is one who is foolish, one who can be easily deceived. The word 'simple' has several meanings. "Easily deceived, foolish, stupid' are some of them. I am not so simple as to believe your cock-and-bull stories. Simple-minded also means 'foolish, stupid'."

"Don't think I am simple-minded because I ask simple questions."

"Not at all."

(March 1, 1994)

THE DAILY QUIZ

A quiz on observances, birthdays and everything else that happened on November 26

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Abhinaya K.

QUESTION 1

Angela Bassett played the lead role in the movie about this trailblazing rock and roll singer. The movie released in 1993. The singer has been inducted into the rock and roll hall of fame twice. Identify the singer who was born on this day and also name the movie.

QUESTION 2

When the Indian Constitution was adopted on November 26,1949, it was about 1,45,000 words long, making it the longest national Constitution ever to be adopted. Is the statement true or false? How many Articles were there when it was adopted.

QUESTION 3

The first French satellite was launched on this day in 1965. It was named after a French comic character created by René Goscinny. Name the satellite.

QUESTION 4

This American children's fantasy book was published on this day. Written by a mathematician, it has an assortment of characters including March Hare, Bill the Lizard, Cheshire Cat. Name the book and the author.

QUESTION 5

Charles Schulz, who passed away on this day, is the creator of comic characters like Charlie brown and Snoopy. Name the comic strip.

The still is from an iconic film that premiered on this day. The film exceeded expectations and went on to win three Oscars. Identify the categories in which it won the Academy Awards. Also name the film. THE HINDU

Answers to the previous day's quiz:

1. Who became the first World Chess Champion in 1886? **Ans: Wilhelm Steinitz** 2. What is common to Alexei Shirov, Vladimir Kramnik, Veselin Topalov and Boris Gelfand? **Ans:- Defeated by Vishwanathan Anand to win four of his five world titles** 3. Who is the youngest World Champion? **Ans:- Garry Kasparov** 4. Who won in 1975 because the defending champion defaulted? **Ans:- Anatoly Karpov** 5. Which German was the champion consecutively from 1894 to 1921, the longest reign for a World Champion? **Ans:- Emanuel Lasker** 6. What unfortunate distinction does Alexander Alekhine hold? **Ans:- Only World Champion to die while holding the title** 7. In which city and year did Carlsen dethrone Anand as World champion? **Ans:- Chennai, 2013** Visual question:- The maverick legend considered the greatest of all time by many chess aficionados. **Ans:- Bobby Fischer**

Early Birds

Tito Shiladitya – Tamal Biswas – Sonali Das – Piyali Tuli – Dodo Jayaditya

Word of the day

Rickety:
in bad condition and therefore weak and likely to break

Synonyms: shaky, wobbly, wonky

Usage: *Careful! That chair's a bit rickety. She slowly climbed the rickety wooden steps.*

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈrɪk.ə.ti/

Pronunciation: https://bit.ly/ricketynew

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Rowdy booked for making extortion calls from prison

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) officials on Saturday registered an FIR against a jailed rowdy-sheeter for allegedly making extortion calls to a city-based logistic firm demanding protection money.

Based on the complaint by one of the employees, the CCB officials charged the accused, identified as Vishwanatha alias Psycho Vishwa, charging him under Section 308 (5) (extortion through threats of death or grievous harm) of BNS and Section 42 (introducing or removing prohibited items into or from a prison) of the Karnataka Prison Act.

The accused allegedly called the clerk, Devidas Naik of CM Logistic service on Mysuru road, on October 31 and introduced himself as Psycho Vishwa. The caller told the victim that he needed ₹40,000 cash per week as protection money and will not allow them to do business if the money is not paid. Naik disconnected the call, but the accused started calling him from different numbers and abused him verbally and threatened to kill him. He even called the owner of the logistic centre and other employees. Unable to bear the harassment, the victims approached the police seeking help.

Vishwanatha was involved in a series of criminal cases and arrested by the police after opening fire at him in Byadarahalli in 2020. The accused was involved in the murder of a cab driver.

The extortion call from Vishwanatha is a matter of concern as use of mobile phones continue unabated despite crackdowns.

KSRTC staff federation to hold State-wide strike on Dec. 31

Govt. owes arrears to the tune of ₹1,750 crore and gratuity payment of ₹399.29 crore, claims union

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The protest will have an impact on public transportation. FILE PHOTO

The KSRTC Staff and Workers' Federation, along with other transport unions, is planning a State-wide strike on December 31 to urge the State government to meet their long-pending demands, including pending arrears and gratuity payments.

The protest will have an impact on public transportation, affecting passengers commuting through Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC), Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), and other transport corporations.

Pending arrears

The union leaders claimed that the government owes pending arrears to the tune of ₹1,750 crore and gratuity payments amount to ₹399.29 crore. Despite assurances of a salary hike starting January 2024, the government had not made a decision on this matter.

Expressing frustration over the unfulfilled promises, H.V. Anantha Subba Rao, president, KSRTC Staff and Workers Federation, said, "Our decision to organise the State-wide strike is a result of the government's inaction. The Chief Minister and the Minister for Transport had repeatedly assured us in meetings that our demands would be met. However, there has been no action."

"This protest is not just a warning. If the government continues to neglect our grievances, the strike will disrupt services across the State," Mr. Rao said, adding that the strike will be withdrawn only if our demands are met. The Joint Action Committee (JAC) has united various transport organisations and is actively mobilising employees.

Mr. Rao further revealed plans for a Belagavi Chalo protest on December 9, where union members will gather outside the Suvarna Soudha to press their demands during the assembly sessions.

A BMTC employee said that it is worrisome for him and his family that they wee yet to receive the pending arrears. "If the government releases 38 months of unpaid arrears, it will greatly benefit my family. Despite approaching senior officials, the government has not resolved the issue," he said.

In January 2023, a similar protest was organised but failed to make an impact on bus services.

After complaints about odour, restrooms being redesigned

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

In response to complaints about odour from bio-toilets on its Flybus services, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) is redesigning the restrooms to include better ventilation, air fresheners, and other changes.

The Flybus, a premium airport shuttle service, connects key cities in Karnataka, such as Mysuru, Mangaluru, Madikeri, Manipal, Udupi, and Kundapur to Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru.

Despite high-tech interiors, reclining seats, GPS connectivity, and modern bio-toilets, passengers have voiced concerns about the maintenance and odour from the restrooms.

Cleaning routines

KSRTC Managing Director V. Anbu Kumar acknowledged the feedback from passengers and told *The Hindu*: "We are taking measures to correct the issues regarding toilets. Our aim is to enhance passenger comfort without compromising hygiene."

A view of the bio-toilet inside a Flybus, a premium airport shuttle service that connects key cities in Karnataka to Kempegowda International Airport.

The corporation conducts cleaning routines after each trip, covering the interiors, toilets, and exteriors of the bus. However, improper toilet use by some passengers has been identified as a contributing factor to the odour problem. "Despite the cleaning protocols, misuse of the facility during trips can lead to temporary issues," he added.

Frequent traveller Bhuvan Bopanna, who takes the Flybus between Bengaluru airport and Mysuru, said: "The service is excellent in terms of comfort and punctuality, but the bio-toilet odour can be overwhelming at times. I usually avoid using it unless absolutely necessary."

Another passenger, Priya Kumari, who recently travelled to Madikeri, said: "It is a cost-effective way to reach the airport directly, especially when compared to cabs or using multiple modes of transport, but the odour makes it difficult to sit comfortably during long journeys. "

Man returns child to district hospital after taking it away

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

A 38-year-old man who is said to have kidnapped a child on Sunday from the District Hospital in Vijayapura returned it to the medical facility on Monday.

The police have taken the accused into custody.

Ravi Chalavadi of Chatnalli village in Devarahipparagi taluk on Sunday kidnapped one-year-old Sandeep from the district hospital.

The child's mother, Rameshwari Pawar, had brought her mother Padma to the hospital for check-up. And, the child was crying. Ravi Chalavadi, who had also come to the hospital for treatment, offered to console the crying child. After holding the child for a few moments, he disappeared with it. The incident happened on Sunday. The worried family approached the police and filed a complaint.

Meanwhile, the police launched investigation in the case, including searching for CCTV footage and screening visitors to the hospital.

On Monday, the accused came to the hospital to return the child. He was detained by the police who later handed the child over to the mother. "We are not sure of the reasons for the incident. Investigation is on," said Additional Superintendent of Police Shankar Marihal.

HC quashes notification declaring 20 acres of private land in Mylasandra village as part of Turahalli forest

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has questioned the State government's conduct of objecting the outcome of a survey, conducted none other than by the government's own authorities on court's directions, which found that about 20 acres of contentious private lands were not even part of government land abutting Turahalli forest for being declared as part of forestland.

The court made these observations while setting aside the 2006 notification issued by the Forest Department declaring this 20 acres of private land as part of Turahalli forest, notified in 1935.

"It would be unacceptable for the State to argue against its own survey contending that the survey is not properly done," the court observed while pointing out that the survey was conducted in 2022 on the court's directions and the report clearly indicate that there is no encroachment of forestland.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while allowing a petition, filed in 2015, by D. Muniraju and his five brothers, who had in 1982 purchased this 20 acres of land, situated in Mylasandra village of Kengeri hobli, from its erstwhile owners.

"The survey is not done keeping the stake holders in darkness. It is admittedly done after issuing notice and in the presence of all the stake holders, including the officials of the Forest Department. Merely because officers in the Forest Department changed, it cannot be said that the survey was erroneously done. If the survey takes place in the presence of all the stakeholders, including the petitioners, pursuant to the orders of this court, nothing further need be analysed by the court," the court observed in its order.

"If contemporaneous documents of 1933 are noticed, they clearly match with the report of the survey conducted by the government," the court said while pointing out that the 20 acres of land had already lost the characteristic of government land when government in 1935 notified certain lands as Turahalli forest, as this 20 acres land was part of lands granted to certain persons way back in 1931.

The court also noted that as original grantees, to whom the land was granted in 1931, had failed to pay taxes, the land was confiscated and sold in public auction, and thereafter several hands changed, before the land came to the possession of the petitioners.

"No doubt the forestland abuts the lands of the petitioners. But, that does not mean that the boundary of the forestland can stretch into private land declaring the entire extent of land of the petitioners to be forestland," the court observed while terming erroneous the 2006 order of Assistant Conservator of Forests the land as forestland and its confirmation by the Chief Conservator of Forests in 2014.

SEP Commission to examine norms allowing students to pursue two academic courses simultaneously

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

Following a reminder by the University Grants Commission (UGC) for Karnataka to implement its 2022 order to allow students to pursue two academic programmes simultaneously in higher educational institutions (HEIs), the State government has decided to place the scheme before the State Education Policy (SEP) Commission.

"It is unscientific and unrealistic to allow students to pursue two academic courses simultaneously. Therefore, we have decided to place the guidelines and orders issued by the UGC before the SEP Commission. Then, the committee's decision will be reviewed and appropriate action will be taken," said M.C. Sudhakar, Minister of Higher Education, terming the UGC guidelines "impractical."

The final report of the SEP Commission headed by Sukhdev Thorat is expected by February 2025.

As part of the National Education Policy - 2020, the UGC had allowed students to pursue two academic programmes simultaneously in 2022. However, the Congress government in the State withdrew the implementation of NEP, including the four-year honours degree programme, which was implemented by the previous BJP regime. So it has not implemented the 2022 UGC order as well.

After many reminders, UGC expressed its displeasure about not implementing the programme and issued a fresh reminder on November 20. "It has come to our attention that many students continue to face challenges in enrolling in two academic programmes at the same time, due to HEI's insistence on submission of migration certificates or school leaving certificates for admission. This limits students from securing admission to two courses and undermines the purpose of the guidelines," UGC said.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, NOV. 26		
RISE	06:23	SET 17:51
RISE	02:18	SET 14:30
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27		
RISE	06:24	SET 17:51
RISE	03:02	SET 15:04
THURSDAY, NOV. 28		
RISE	06:24	SET 17:51
RISE	03:48	SET 15:40

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	22
Mysuru	30	19
Bengaluru	28	19

Bengaluru Today
28°C Morning will be pleasant with mist and haze. Day will be comfortable. Night also will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevail.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C The weather will be mostly dry. Morning will be pleasant with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INDIRA PARYAVARAN BHAWAN, ALI GANJ,
JOR BAGH ROAD, NEW DELHI – 110003

Central Zoo Authority is a statutory body constituted by the Central Government (Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change), under the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 1991, to oversee and monitor the management of zoos in the country and to ensure their development on scientific lines. Member Secretary is the Chief Executive Officer of this Authority.

Applications are invited for the post of Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi, in the Pay Matrix Level 15 (₹182200-224100) (as per 7CPC). Plus usual allowances as admissible under the Central Government Rules. The Member Secretary will have the option either to avail the leased accommodation as provided by the Authority or draw HRA as admissible.

Appointment of Member Secretary:

(1) The Central Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint a Member-Secretary, on deputation, who shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as assigned to him by the Chairperson.

(2) No person above the age of fifty five years, with reference to 1st January, shall be appointed as Member-Secretary and shall not remain in the office after attaining the age of sixty years.

(3) A person to be appointed as Member-Secretary shall have the following essential and desirable qualification:

(A) Qualifications : Essential: (i) Master's degree in Zoology or Life Science, Wildlife Biology or Veterinary Science of a recognized University or equivalent; and

(ii) Having 26 years regular service rendered after appointment in Group 'A' post;

or

Ph.D in Zoology or Life Science, Wildlife Biology or Veterinary Science of a recognized University with at least 23 years regular service in a Group 'A' post rendered after obtaining Ph.D degree;

or

Indian Forest Service Officers serving at least as a Chief Conservator of Forests or in an equivalent rank having 26 years regular service with reference to year of allotment.

Note 1: (a) Out of the service indicated at (i), (ii) and (iii) above, the candidate must have at least five years experience as whole time Director/Officer-in-charge of a Zoo: or

(b) Three years experience of working as Member Secretary, State Zoo Authority; or

(c) Eight years experience of dealing with in situ wildlife conservation.

(d) The years of service shall be counted with reference to 1st January of the year in which the post is advertised.

(B) Desirable: Experience in formulation of policies and programme on matters relating to wildlife conservation in the Central Government; or/and International Organizations;

Note 2: Central Government may relax the condition of the qualification and experience if candidates fulfilling the same are not available.

Note 3: Age relaxation–Subject to relaxation for Scheduled Casts/Scheduled Tribes candidates as laid down by the central Government.

Note 4: Place of Posting- New Delhi, but liable to be posted anywhere in India subject to exigencies of work.

(C) Salary and allowances of the Member Secretary :- The Member-Secretary shall be entitled to the salary in the pay matrix level 15 and shall be entitled to draw travelling and daily allowances at the rate admissible to Group 'A' Officer of the Central Government.

(D) General Conditions: (1) Application should be sent either in Hindi or English. (2) Application should be accompanied by copies of certificates of educational qualifications, experience, the original certificates should not be attached with the application at this stage. (3) The applications should be submitted through proper channel, together with a certificate as in Annexure. The applicant may, if he so wished, send one advance copy of the application in the prescribed form, complete in all respects, by the due date (4) Candidates may be called for an interview. (5) A Search-cum-Selection is constituted by the Ministry for selection of suitable candidate. (6) Outstation candidates called for interview will be paid to and from fare by the shortest route and entitled class. (7) Applications received after the due date, unsigned applications, incomplete applications and applications not in prescribed proforma will not be considered. (8) Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification. (9) Application can be downloaded from the website of CZA and MOEFCC and sent in prescribed format in A4 size paper. (10) Please affix one passport size photograph duly signed by the candidate. **(11) Application should reach Finance Officer, Central Zoo Authority, 6th Floor, B-1 Wing, Pandit Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi – 110 003 latest by 30-12-2024 (12) Please visit CZA website http://www.cza.nic.in and http://www.envfor.nic.in for other details and application form (13) On selection, serving IFS Officer must have completed one year mandatory cooling off before joining the post.**

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)

No: GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(EI)/EE(EI)/MRT-LDC/AEE-1/2024-25/43540-60 Date: 25-11-2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION (KPPP MODE ONLY)

Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited, Kalaburagi invites bids from the eligible bidders for "Repairs of 10 Nos. faulty 5 MVA, 33/11 KV Power Transformers of various makes available at various 33/11 kV Sub-station of GESCOM jurisdiction including transportation from site to repair bay and from repair bay to site as decided by GESCOM along with testing and commissioning after repairs to the transformers on Percentage basis under rate contract for a period of 2 (Two) years" (Bid Enquiry No: GESCOM/2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT 156, Approximate Amount put to tender **Rs. 200 Lakhs).**

The interested bidders may log in to Government Web Site: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **26-11-2024.**

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Electy),
Operation, Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/654/KSMC&A/2024-25

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. 24 MYS 2024-25
Dated : 14-11-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following Items.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Hard Drawn Grooved Copper Contract wire. Tender No. L9245895A	Rs. 1,09,25,187/-

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 10:30 Hrs on 18-12-2024

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date

Senior Divisional Materials Manager
PUB/580/AAS/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Mysuru**
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

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Waqf row: More notices sent during BJP regime, says Cong.

Home Minister G. Parameshwara says notices were issued to farmers by a committee led by Kumar Bangarappa with respect to 2,900 acres during the BJP rule, compared to only 300 acres during the current Siddaramaiah government

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Leaders of the Congress on Monday launched a counter-attack at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for raking up the issue of notices to farmers regarding waqf properties and said that more notices were sent during the erstwhile BJP regime than now.

Seeking to turn the tables on the BJP, which is set to launch a campaign on the issue, the Congress leaders maintained that the notices were issued with respect to 2,900 acres during the BJP regime, by a committee led by BJP leader Kumar Bangarappa, compared to the notices issued for about 300 acres by the current government.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has said the BJP is raking up the waqf issue only for publicity, while Home Minister G. Parameshwara says the BJP's mask has now slipped. FILE PHOTO

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar alleged that the BJP was only seeking publicity, and that the Congress would gain if they protested.

"The BJP is raising the issue to mask its own shortcomings. In Channapatna, when I enquired about applications for rectification in the RTC, it was found that changes were made in 2020 when the BJP was in power," he added.

Home Minister G. Parameshwara also said that the BJP's mask had slipped and it was now a fact that more notices were sent during the BJP rule than now.

"The truth in the waqf issue has come out. More notices were sent during the tenure of former Chief Ministers B.S. Yediyurappa and Basavaraj Bommai. The committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Bangarappa had issued notices to evict farmers with respect to 2,900 acres. During Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's tenure, notices have been issued to farmers for about 300 acres," the Home Minister told presspersons here.

Meanwhile, Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok said that the BJP government had issued notices to those who encroached upon waqf land based on a report by a committee headed by Anwar Manippady.

"The committee had exposed several Congress leaders who had encroached upon waqf land and later sold them. The BJP government had issued the notices in light of that report. Let the Congress government take action against officials if the notices had been wrongly issued. The Congress government is issuing notices to poor farmers," Mr. Ashok said.

He also accused the government of misleading people on the waqf issue by lying about developments and alleging that more farmers got the notices during the BJP rule.

'Disgruntled' BJP leaders take out protest march in Bidar

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

The internal rumblings in the Bharatiya Janata Party came to the fore again with "disgruntled" leaders, led by senior MLA Basanagouda Patil R. Yatnal, embarking on a separate campaign on the waqf row in Bidar, without waiting for the party's campaign scheduled to begin early next month.

Mr. Yatnal along with BJP leaders Arvind Limbavalli, G.M. Siddeshwar, Kumar Bangarappa, and Ramesh Jarkiholi took out a protest march in Bidar, against the eviction notices issued to some farmers by the waqf board accusing them of encroachment.

The protest rally began from Ganesh Maidan and concluded at the Deputy Commissioner's office. Mr. Yatnal, addressing the gathering, termed the issue of notices and changing of land records as "land jihad" and appeasement politics by the Siddaramaiah government. The land belonging to farmers, temples, and mutts, besides archaeological sites, were being marked as waqf land and the Congress was making an attempt to create another Pakistan in India, he alleged.

Basanagouda Patil R. Yatnal, MLA, and other BJP leaders submitting a memorandum to authorities in Bidar on Monday. T. GOPICHAND

The BJP local leaders expressed anguish over the "disgruntled leaders" and took exception to the absence of State president B.Y. Vijayendra's photo on the banners. Local leaders including local MLAs did not turn up for the event.

The party district unit president has filed a complaint against Mr. Yatnal's team and urged the district police to remove the unauthorised banners.

Meanwhile, BJP State general secretary P. Rajiv termed the action "indiscipline" and said the party would report the matter to Central leaders.

Muslim board to explore legal and constitutional avenues against waqf Bill

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The All-India Muslim Personal Law Board on Monday said it would exhaust all available legal, constitutional, and democratic avenues to pressure the government to withdraw The Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024. The board met in Bengaluru for its two-day convention. Moulana Khalid Saifullah Rahmani, an Islamic scholar, was re-elected president of the board till 2026.

S.Q.R. Ilyas, national spokesperson of All-India Muslim Personal Law Board, and others during a press conference in Bengaluru on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Besides opposing the Bill, the board reiterated its opposition to the Uniform Civil Code, and objected to increasing efforts to allegedly undermine the Places of Worship Act, 1991, and insults being hurled at Prophet Muhammad.

"The Joint Parliamentary Committee formed to seek suggestions from stakeholders is giving time and attention to those with no *locus standi* on the issue, and is behaving in a partisan way, violating rules and norms. The Bill has been cannily crafted to usurp waqf properties across the country. All 44 amendments and their sub-sections were designed to destroy and manipulate the status of waqf properties," the board stated.

Stating that about 5 crore Muslims and Muslim groups have rejected the Bill, the board in a note said that no sensible government should overlook this. "It is incorrect to state that waqf properties enjoy special status since all endowments of Hindus, Sikhs, and other communities also enjoy similar powers," the board stated.

Representatives of the All-India Muslim Personal Law Board and other Muslim organisations also said that they will be staging a dharna before Parliament opposing the amendments.

Uniform Civil Code

The Uniform Civil Code is unacceptable as it is against the freedom of religion and cultural diversities enshrined in the Constitution, the board said.

"The board in no uncertain terms makes it clear that it is unacceptable to Muslims as they will never compromise with Sharia law (Muslim personal law). The board considers this as interference and a well thought-out conspiracy of the BJP government that will have grave ramifications. The legislature of the country itself has approved the Shariat Application Act, 1937. The Constitution of India has declared as a fundamental right under Article 24 to profess, propagate and practice religion."

The board stated: "The UCC is a threat to fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution, religious and cultural diversities and concept of unity in diversity, the distinct identities of religious and cultural groups, federal structure of the country and the idea of India as enshrined in the Constitution."

The UCC mentioned in the directive principles of the state policy is a mere direction and not mandatory nor is enforceable by court, and that the board has taken a decision to file a PIL petition in the High Court challenging the Uttarakhand UCC, it said.

My son will get a chance to serve the people one day, says Anitha

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amidst discussion over the electoral loss of Nikhil Kumaraswamy in Channapatna, his mother and former legislator Anitha Kumaraswamy on Monday said that she strongly believed that he would get a chance to work for the people in future.

"It is true that my son lost his third election. It is part of any election where one has to win and the other has to lose. There will be many reasons for defeat. I don't intend to discuss them. He has only lost an election but as a human being. In politics, defeat for me, for my husband (Union Minister for Heavy Industries H.D. Kumaraswamy) or my father in law (former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda) is not new. We have taken both defeat and victory equally. We have not been arrogant in victory nor venomous in defeat. It applies to my son too," said Ms. Anitha Kumaraswamy on X (formerly Twitter).

Mr. Nikhil, who lost at Channapatna in the bypoll, earlier lost in the Ramanagara Assembly constituency in 2023 and in the Mandya Lok Sabha constituency in 2019.

She said: "I don't have to say much about my son. He has been a good son, husband and father. Before entering politics, he was a good lead actor. My husband and I are proud to have him as our son. I have revelled in his success and shed tears during his tough days. I hope mothers like me can understand my emotions." She said that she firmly believed that Mr. Nikhil will get a chance to serve the people one day.

Govt. seeks to rename three railway stations

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Minister for Large and Medium Industries and Infrastructure Development M.B. Patil has announced that a proposal has been submitted to rename three railway stations – Gangavati, Bhanapura, and Munirabad located in Koppal district.

The recommendation has been forwarded to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who will in turn send it to the Union Home Ministry.

Mr. Patil revealed that the proposal seeks to rename Gangavati station as Anjanadri station, Bhanapura as Mahatma Gandhi, and Munirabad as Huligemma Devi.

The proposed move is intended to honour the sentiments of the people of Kalyana Karnataka region, he said.

According to mythology, Anjanadri is believed to be the birthplace of Lord Anjaneya, while Huligemma Devi is a revered folk deity. Renaming Bhanapura station after Gandhiji would also carry historical significance, Mr. Patil stated in a release.

Butterfly park will come up in Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary, says Forest Minister Khandre

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Minister for Forest, Biodiversity and Environment Eshwar B. Khandre on Monday said he has asked officials to develop a butterfly park at Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary near Mysuru, similar to the one at the Bannerghatta Biological Park in Bengaluru.

Croc on a rock: Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre watching a crocodile at the Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary on Monday.

Speaking after flagging off three new boats for birdwatching at the sanctuary, the Minister, who later held a meeting with forest officials, directed the officials to provide all necessary and basic facilities for tourists visiting the sanctuary. The Minister added that he has also asked for promotion of the new attractions that have been introduced at the sanctuary to boost footfall.

The Minister was also happy that boats at the sanctuary were named Cauvery, Hemavathi, Tunga, Krishna, and Lakshman Tirtha, and he suggested naming the three new boats as Manjra, Godavari, and Karanja. Mr. Khandre also suggested introducing online ticketing for entry and boating at the sanctuary. "This will benefit visitors. The online ticketing system that exists for trekking and safari can also be extended to Ranganatittu sanctuary," the Minister suggested.

Mr. Khandre asked the forest authorities to submit a proposal for developing Gende Hosahalli island, which is near the bird sanctuary, on the lines of Ranganatittu.

The Minister later went on a boating ride and watched birds and also a giant crocodile that was resting on a rock at the river.

The Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary in Srirangapatna was declared a Ramsar site two years ago.

The Karanji Lake Nature Park (KLNP), one of the popular tourist attractions in Mysuru, has a butterfly park. The Kerala Forest Research Institute, which has a rich collection of plant species that can magnetise varieties of butterflies, had assisted the Zoo Authority of Karnataka, the caretaker of KLNP, in making the butterfly park attractive by way of introducing plants that can draw multicoloured butterflies.

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಚೇರಿ(ಐ.ಟಿ)

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಆದೇಶ 1999–2000 ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆ್ಯಕ್ಟ 2000 ರ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧೀಕೃತ ಏಜನ್ಸಿದಾರರು/ ಪರವಾನಿಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ / ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಪೊರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಸೂಚನೆಗಳು:– ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಗಳನ್ನು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು.
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರ (ಐ.ಟಿ) ಇವರ ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. **ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0836–2251955** ಮತ್ತು ಅಂತರ್‌ಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಸದರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟನಲ್ಲಿ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26–11–2024** ರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಸದರಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು

ಅ. ನಂ	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ ನಂ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಯ ಅವಧಿ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
1	DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_ INDENT30477/CALL-2 (Ward No.61)	25.00	45 ದಿನಗಳು	03.12.2024 ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11:00	04.12.2024 ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11:30
2	DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_ INDENT27727/CALL-3 (Ward No.55)	20.00	45 ದಿನಗಳು		
3	DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_ INDENT32602 (Ward No.71)	49.00	60 ದಿನಗಳು	24.12.2024 ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11:00	26.12.2024 ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11:30

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಐ.ಟಿ)
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/644/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ/2024–25

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites tenders in two stage tender system from eligible contractors for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender / EMD Amount
	Office of the Chief Engineer (Project),3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore - 560 009.	
	No.:BWSSB/CE(P)/ACE(Cstr&DCW)/1675/2024-25	**Date:25.11.2024**
1	Providing and fixing of 27000Rmt of 19mm dia Thermoplastic Sewer hose as per specification for combined jetting / suction machine.	Rs. 4,10,67,540/- / Rs. 6,16,100/-
	No.:BWSSB/CE(P)/ACE(Cstr&DCW)/1674/2024-25	**Date:25.11.2024**
2	Procurement of 1812 Nos. Glandless DI Sluice valves of various dia's conforming to BS:5163-1986/IS:14846-2000 with its latest amendments of P N1.6 with bolt, nut & rubber insertion.	Rs. 4,60,62,626/- / Rs. 6,91,000/-

For above work, Last date for receipt of tenders : **05.12.2024 before 16:00 Hrs.** The Tenders will be opened on: **06.12.2024 at 16:30 Hrs.**

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Project)

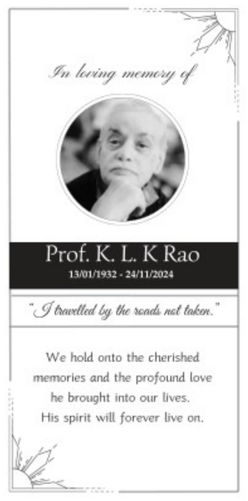
The details regarding the tender and participatin in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/JA/3425/2024-25

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

K S LAKSHMANAN (Age-101),Retired Assistant Cook, Canteen Dept, The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 22-11-2024. Addr:26/5, 47th St, Ashok Nagar, Chennai- 83. Ct: 94447 39276



DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

16th DEATH ANNIVERSARY

K.M. KAMALAKSHI
D.O.D: 26.11.2008
Fondly remembered by: Husband, Children & Grand Children

Chaotic railway entry points to the city: A mess that needs sorting out

With multiple agencies and stakeholders working in silos, railway station redevelopment is seen more as a cosmetic exercise than a boost to basic functionality

Rasheed Kappan
BENGALURU

K.R. Puram railway station today with its inadequate narrow stairways and foot overbridge linking four platforms. RASHEED KAPPAN

An artists impression of the elevation of the third entry to K.R. Puram Railway Station after redevelopment. RASHEED KAPPAN

A chaotic mess of narrow stairways, broken pathways and poorly lit platforms in deep decay. This is how a hi-tech city with global ambitions greets you with the creaky infrastructure of its railway entry points.

On the outer periphery of Bengaluru, as lakhs of people struggle with their heavy luggage to get in and out of trains, stations cry out for an urgent functionality upgrade. Redevelopment, as passengers scream out in desperation, should go beyond aesthetics.

Off the bizarrely crowded Old Madras Road, the K.R. Puram railway station stands as a telling proof of everything that a critical rail head, a gateway to the city, should not be. Stretched far beyond its capacity, the station is today one of the city's most crowded. Over 180 trains halt and pass by the four platforms here, serving an estimated 25,000 passengers daily. Yet, the station lies there in desperate need of a total overhaul.

At Yeshwanthpura railway terminal, another hyper-busy rail head at the city's other end, a flashy steel canopy built at ₹14 crore is pulled down to make way for a redevelopment plan. No one asked for the canopy, nor did they know how the new plan will improve their access to the trains. As aesthetic structures are dismantled and refitted, thousands of passengers - young, old and the disabled - struggle without a bridge to get into the nearby Metro Station.

Connectivity is a joke at most of these stations, with passengers left at the mercy of the expensive auto rickshaws and cabs. BMTC buses, if present, are grossly inadequate, while Metro stations are often a struggling distance away without access-friendly bridges. Escalators and lifts are conspicuous by their absence, inevitably forcing the harried passengers to precariously hang on to rusted railings as they take one step after another on unfriendly stairs.

Zero consultation

"There is a total lack of any consultation with the actual users in station redevelopment. Someone sitting in Hubli or Delhi or maybe, even Bengaluru, decides in their own silos, designs something and executes it," notes Rajkumar Dugar, a seasoned advocate for sustainable rail mobility. "They just go with looks. For instance, we have seen how so many things went wrong with the Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal in Baiyappanahalli," he points out.

Built from scratch, the new SMVT Terminal mimics the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in its aesthetic canopy and frontage but severely falls short in functionality. Leakages, and flooding are recurring complaints. But the biggest problem is inadequate connectivity to other modes of transport. "It is like putting the cart before the horse. You make the station and then land up in a mess. The moment you improve a station with so many platforms and other facilities, new trains will start and for those new services and new footfalls, additional connectivity is required," says Rajkumar.

Coordination gaps

This, he observes, clearly indicates a lack of coordination between the railways, which are under the Central government and the State Government agencies such as the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC). The SMVT Terminal is far from the Baiyappanahalli Metro Station, with proposed pedestrian connectivity through the NGEF land nowhere in sight.

At Banaswadi station, a key entry and exit point for hundreds of Kerala-bound passengers, the narrow access roads mean BMTC buses are not an option. Arriving by the early morning train, commuters have no choice but to book an Ola or Uber and wait for long, or surrender to the dictates of the bargaining autorickshaw drivers. "There are no prepaid counters or traffic police booths to streamline things and help the passengers," says Muraleedharan, convenor of the Karnataka-Kerala Travellers Forum. Although a new bridge was installed, there are no escalators or lifts at the station.

A glimpse of the narrow stairway at the K.R. Puram railway station. RASHEED KAPPAN

Under the Amrit Bharat Station redevelopment scheme, 15 stations in the Bengaluru divisional jurisdiction are proposed to be given a facelift. K.R. Puram and Whitefield are the two stations identified on the Bengaluru-Jolarpettai Junction route. Platform upgrades, escalators, lifts, parking area development, resting rooms and beautification are part of the redevelopment agenda.

The newly opened bridge leading to the K.R. Puram Metro Station. RASHEED KAPPAN

On paper, the proposed front elevation of the K.R. Puram station's three entries appears imposing. Beyond aesthetics, the redevelopment plan provisions a VIP lounge, Divyangjan toilets, a waiting hall upgrade, escalators at the first and second platforms, lifts at all four platforms, improved signages and area for future commercial development. A reality check shows excavators at work, although completion could take well over a year.

But should basic infrastructural tweaks be kept pending for that long? A spot visit reveals the full extent of the passenger's struggles. A limping middle-aged woman with a walker had a harrowing time climbing the narrow stairway on Platform-3, struggling her way through a crowd of passengers coming down from the bridge above. The pain was writ large on the face of this passenger, a railway attendant herself.

Awaiting a MEMU train to Bangarpet, another passenger Padmavathy rues the lack of proper access points to quickly get in and out of the station. "The skywalk to the Metro Station is now ready, but they have shut the other exit to the road from platform 1," she complains. A fellow passenger, Ravi Kumar from KGF suggests a subway to link all the platforms and the road outside.

The redevelopment process might be underway now, but the pleas by passengers for proper bridge connectivity have been ignored for over a decade. Once they endured the tough climb up the stairway and got onto the road, crossing the Old Madras Road under the cable-bridge was a perfect recipe for disaster. Carrying heavy luggage, they had to brave the chaotic traffic risking lives.

A bridge too far

At Yeswanthpura, commuters and citizen activists had been asking for a bridge linking the railway and Metro stations for years. "The Metro station should have been connected to the railway Foot Over Bridge soon after it was operationalised. Nobody should have come to the road. We had spoken to the railway DRMs, BMRCL MDs several times, but in vain," recalls Rajkumar.

With multiple agencies and stakeholders working in silos, station redevelopment is seen more as a cosmetic exercise than a boost to basic functionality. The way ahead, say commuters and railway experts alike, is to divert the crores of rupees now being spent on aesthetics to infra upgrades as suggested by the users themselves. And if the elected MPs from the city give full-throated support to these chosen projects, the stations could be redeveloped in a jiffy, and in ways that will actually benefit the all-important passenger.

Priyamedha Dutta
BENGALURU

Namma Pride 2024: To the colours of love

From community members to allies, people from all walks of life gathered to support the LGBTQIA+ community

Participants holding the pride flag. PRIYAMEDHA DUTTA

Love, laughter and a lot of happy colours: that's how the 17th year of Namma Pride started in Bengaluru on a bright Sunday afternoon. Organised by CSMR (Coalition for Sex Workers and Sexual Minority Rights), Namma Pride & Karnataka Queer Habba play a pivotal role in bringing every queer individual in the city together to march for their rights.

From community members to allies, people from all walks of life gathered at Sree Kanteerava Outdoor Stadium to support the LGBTQIA+ community. Apart from regulars, the city's 17th Pride Walk also saw a lot of first-timers. Some were from the community itself, while others came as allies, wanting to simply show support for their friends.

Devika, a first-year college student and a first-timer at the event, expressed how she has been looking forward to attending this march, "Today, I am expecting to join a community of likeminded people for the celebration that reminds us of the struggles that the community have to go through to reclaim what is rightfully theirs," she said while Iora, also a first-timer to Pride this year added, "I have come here with my friends, I love the environment, it is so happy and cheerful, to be around people who are so supportive of each other."

And there were others for whom this was finding a space to be themselves. Puja, who is attending Pride for the fourth time, was one of them. "Pride is about coming together as a community to find a safe space to be yourself. It gives the LGBTQIA+ community visibility and platform to show the world that we exist."

Many participants were dressed in colourful attire and carrying quirky placards, adding to the overall festive vibe of the one-day event. And yet, many of these costumes have taken weeks to come together. Prafull, who identifies as non-binary wore what symbolised a metal armour, explained how it took one week to create the entire look, "I am dressed as the lord of non-binary today; I created this whole look out of cardboard."

LGBTQ+ community and their supporters at Namma Pride 2024. K. MURALI KUMAR

There were others wearing more conventional, though still eye-catching outfits, one of them being Arti (name changed), a Pride regular. "I feel that with Pride, apart from connecting with like-minded people, there is this sense of freedom to be ourselves and dress however we want to. Every year, people dress differently. Last time I wore a salwar, this time I decided to wear a sari," who identifies as she/her said.

Pride is Political

Namma Pride 2024 also brought forward unified demands for the rights of sexual minorities and sex workers. These include establishing the Karnataka Transgender Corporation, announcing and operationalising the corporation immediately with a grand of ₹200 crore and ensuring that both the Karnataka and Central governments actively raise public awareness about the 2018 Supreme Court judgement decriminalising homosexuality.

According to the charter of demands put forward by CSMR, immediate action should be taken to stop police violence and harassment against sex workers and protect their rights.

Other demands included updating government apps for easy access for the transgender community to avail of their benefits and services, providing quality nutrition and accessible healthcare to HIV-positive individuals, the systematic implementation of the Karnataka Transgender Policy 2017 and the creation of a state-level committee to address LGBTQIA+ issues.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 26, 1974

Hubli Mayor Suspends Eight Cong. Members

Hubli. Nov. 23. Eight Congress members Including the former Mayor and Deputy Mayor were suspended by the Mayor of Hubli-Dharwar Municipal Corporation at the Council's meeting here last night as they created confusion after making a vain bid to prevent the Council from transacting business. Mr. J. T. Mathias, Mayor, said the suspension would be for 13 days. It was a day of shouting and counter-shouting at the Council which had a marathon session of over five hours inclusive of three adjournments by the Mayor. The trouble was sparked when the former Mayor. Mr. A. M Bangalori rose on a point of order on a reported statement of the Mayor on the purchase of new car for the tatter's use. As members went on shouting at each other nothing was audible and the Mayor adjourned the meeting abruptly. When the Council met again after one hour, several Congressmen rose on their feet contending that the meeting could not be held as the adjournment was total and not for a brief period.

Union Minister Visits HMT

Bangalore. Nov. 23: Mr. A. C. George, Union Minister of State for Industry and Civil Supplies, arrived from Delhi on Friday morning. The HMT Chairman, Dr. S. M. Patil. who received him on his arrival, took him round both the watch and the machine tools, units of the Hindustan Machine Tools.

The Minister later held dlscussions with Dr. Patil and his top executives. This is Mr. George's first visit to HMT after assuming charges of his new Ministry.

Aurélien Jeanney brings AR(t) to life

Aurélien Jeanney's artworks on display at Alliance Francaise de Bangalore blend art, technology and game to create a unique immersive experience for viewers

Nainu Oommen

Entering the art gallery holding my smartphone upright, finding the perfect angle to observe the pieces through my camera is not how I expected to look at art. As I inched slowly towards an exhibit titled Pool Party or *Aquanouba* in French, a piece of mysterious music began to play from my phone, followed by shapes blinking, sliding and swaying on screen. The sudden disappearances and reappearances of shapes presented the visitor an opportunity to don the role of a seeker in this hide-and-seek game/art. The intricately designed poster featured listed objects such as a map, a coin, and a golden ticket, among others.

The steps remain consistent as we move from one artwork to another created by French artist and graphic designer Aurélien Jeanney. His pieces feature recurring characters represented by geometric shapes, exploring diverse themes, ranging from a Hindu temple inspired by his earlier experiences in India to catacombs . The objective of this experience is to spot all the 12 hidden items in the list across the ten posters on display.

Towards this end, visitors scan the art pieces using a mobile app designed by Jeanney himself, which utilises augmented reality (AR) technology. AR combines a user's real-life environment with computer-generated content to create interactive experiences. The AR exhibition titled Looki Look, was officially inaugurated by the artist on November 20 at Alliance Française de Trivandrum, Vazhuthacaud.

Now you see me Looki Look by Aurelien Jeanney (above) explores diverses themes about the country. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Looki Look is on at Alliance Française cultural centres across the country as part of their Digital November Festival and is currently underway in Bengaluru. The exhibition is inspired by a "look and find game" like Where's Waldo, a British series of children's puzzle books. The objective of the game is to find a specific character from a crowd.

"The idea was to make it accessible to children, parents and very old people so that everyone can have fun with it," says Aurélien.

With over 16 years of experience as an artist, Aurélien is an art director and multidisciplinary artist specialising in augmented reality experiences through digital illustration. He has won multiple international accolades such as the Grafika Award for design, Numix award and Cannes Lions award. He founded Maison Tangible, a publishing house and gallery in 2015, and has worked on projects such as building murals, children's books, an AR treasure hunt and a poster for the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup held in France, among others.

Aurélien, who has been fascinated by AR since the beginning of his career, says his interest is "linked to my path as an artist." He says, "I started my career as a graphic designer, and later I learnt motion design. When I decided to combine motion with tangible elements of art, AR seemed to be the best way to do it."

Early beginnings

"Coming from a poor family, my dad was a hard worker in a factory and was very sick all the time. He didn't understand how I could do illustrations for a living at all," says the artist, who completed his art degree from the Higher Institute of Fine Arts of Besançon, France. As far as Aurélien can recollect, he used to draw all the time. "I wanted to imitate Asterix and other comic books. It was a passion, and I wanted to draw exactly like how I saw them in the comics," he remembers.

The artist says, "Having worked as a freelancer for 16 years, I don't feel that I am working. I am always building things. I see my work as playing with Lego bricks. I am building geometric shapes, and I assemble them into one thing which leads to another, and it goes on like that."

Inspired by his experiences in India, the artist plans to develop this interactive show into a board game

Beta testing

In 2023, Aurélien Jeanney toured India with an AR exhibition called *Midi Minuit*, curating the works of 11 French artists. As the exhibition was a success, Alliance Francaise invited Aurélien to present another show, this time featuring his own works. "At that time, I had a lot of projects in rough draft, and Looki Look was one of them. The goal was the exhibition, and I had ten months to do it," he says.

The exhibition currently consists of ten works, including two based on his experiences in India. "There's a poster of a flower market inspired by the one I saw in Bengaluru and the Hindu temple, which is a mix of every temple I came across during my trip. I was there in the flower market during Deepavali, it was like an explosion of colours and fragrance; flowers everywhere." Other themes include art school, fun fair, cinema city and so on.

Aurélien says the exhibition is currently in a beta stage and he wants to expand it with more posters adding hidden objects after workshops and tests with children and adults. The artist wants to develop this AR experience into a board game. He says, "My wish for Looki Look is to build a cardboard game so that everyone can play it at home with their family, kids and friends."

He adds, "I also want to strike the right balance in the difficulty of finding the hidden objects within the posters. The idea is that if I go to a new country for an exhibition, I will make a poster for that location. I am lucky enough to have been invited to Estonia after India. I will design another poster for Estonia as well. My dream right now is to create enough posters so that I can have 10 posters just for that country."

Looki Look by Aurélien Jeanney is on at Alliance Française de Bangalore till December 20.

When harmony and cause meet

Shilpa Anandraj

The Kiara Academy of Performing Arts presents an Advent and Christmas concert, Christmas is Coming, this weekend in the city. The evening will feature popular Christmas music and carols for the first half, while the second half is devoted to cantata.

"That is the Christmas or Easter story told in the form of a song," says Wendy M Dickson, who has directed the show with associate director Tina Dickson Franco. "It has narrations from the scriptural texts and is accompanied by instruments. The cantata we will be presenting is titled Because of Bethlehem."

Most of the singing is accompanied with dance, Wendy says. "The dances are choreographed by Rachel Ann Franco, who was a student of Kiara. We have an excellent team of dancers, all teenagers as well as a few couples in their early 20s."

The carols, she says, will be a blend of modern and pop with songs including 'Kid on Christmas', 'Holiday Tango' and 'Christmas is Coming.'

"These songs inspire the tone of the first half of the event," says Wendy. "We wanted to get everyone excited about Christmas. 'This is Christmas' talks about the moods, the reason and the family for the festive season."

Musaical fundraiser Wendy M Dickson (far right) with the team of Kiara Academy of Performing Arts. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

While the first half will feature modern songs, Wendy says, the second half will include traditional Christmas hymns. "The songs we have chosen will talk about the shepherds, the kings, but we wanted to bring in something new and exciting with tradition."

Wendy, worked as a professor of English in Jyoti Nivas College, and started Kiara in 2006, specifically for children. "It gradually grew to include adults to help them explore music, theatre and dance."

Since 2019, the Christmas concert doubled as a fundraiser. "We support St John's Hospital's paediatric cancer wing to help children with cancer and serious disorders of the blood. We do this every year in December."

The fundraising is donated towards The Fr Clement Campos Paediatric Cancer Fund at the hospital. "Father Clement was our mentor and also on the advisory board when we started Kiara. He passed away from cancer and this concert became a fundraiser to honour him and his memory."

Wendy says, though they might not be able to provide funds for every child, but whatever they get through the concert goes to the children's treatment. "Even if we can provide funding for one child or some of the treatment, it is a good thing as cancer treatment is expensive and also for the long term."

This year there will also be a Christmas market. "We have invited stalls with goodies, books, food, home bakes and more. We started the market last year and thought it would be nice to continue the tradition. We announced the market on social media got responses from independent bakers and home entrepreneurs who wished to be a part of the market. There will be 20 stalls with food, confectioneries, short eats and all things connected to Christmas."

Wendy says that the idea to bring in more people for the event was to celebrate the spirit of Christmas. "It is a time of people to come together to enjoy have a good time, yet at the same time, support one another."

The stalls will open one-and-a-half hours before the concert and it runs independently even when the concert is going on and post the concert too.

Christmas is Coming will be presented on November 30, 6pm at St John's Auditorium, Koramangala. Tickets on Zomato to Live. Call 9845274846 / 9880855688 for details.

In celebration of Dhrupad

Bengaluru will get to witness Dhrupad Dhvani, a two-day celebration of Dhrupad, one of India's oldest classical music traditions. Organised by the Indian Music Experience (IME), the festival which will be held on November 29 and 30, 2024, invites audiences to immerse themselves in the depths of this ancient art form.

Dhrupad traces its origins to the ancient texts of the *Natyashastra* and derives its name from *Dhruvapada*, meaning 'fixed verse'. This vocal genre gained prominence during the Mughal era, with its earliest mention as a structured form in Abu Fazl's *Ain-i-Akbari* in the 16th century. Dhrupad emphasises precision, resonance, and a spiritual connection, often featuring an *aalaap* (a slow, meditative exploration of notes) followed by a structured composition set to the beat of the Pakhawaj.

On November 29, Padma Shri Pandit Ritwik Sanyal, a celebrated Dhrupad maestro with over 850 global performances, will perform at the MLR Convention Centre, JP Nagar. Trained under Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar and Ustad Zia Fariduddin Dagar, Sanyal's style embodies intricate musical nuances that evoke a sense of peace. He will be accompanied by his son, Ribhu Sanyal, and Abhijit Sarkar on the Pakhawaj.

Historic legacy Pandit Ritwik Sanyal, Pelva Naik (left). SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The festival continues on November 30 at the IME Museum's Performance Theatre with Pelva Naik, a rising star in Dhrupad. Known for her innovative approach, Pelva is a disciple of Ustad Zia Fariduddin Dagar and Rudraveena virtuoso Bahauddin Dagar. Abihijit Sarkar will accompany her as well.

On November 29 and 30 at MLR Convention Centre and IME. Tickets on BookMyShow.

CITYBEATS

Pizza and a party

NOVEMBER 29
Listening Party, Groove to Rare Soul and Funk Vinyl with XS will present an evening of rare soul and funk music as they spin timeless tracks on vinyls. XS is also known for his passion for eclectic sounds and dynamic performances.
At PizzaExpress, Indiranagar, 8pm onwards. Call 9632855858 for details.

Twisty take over

NOVEMBER 30
Izumi Assagoa will take over the Bar & Kitchen at Siren. Izumi is known for its innovative takes on dishes such as the hamachi truffle zonzu with wasabi jelly, sashimi salad, and the shoyu chintan vegetarian ramen.
At Siren, 25/4 Lavelle Road, 2nd Floor, 7pm onwards. Call 7718874933 to reserve your table.

Sure shot

ONGOING
Transients - A Portrayal of Indian Rivers is an exhibition of fine art photographs captured Ranjith Madhavan. The freelance photography artist who travels by train and bus has covered 18 states and photographed as many as 20 rivers across India.
At Karnataka Chitrakala Parishad Art Gallery, till December 1.

Big decision: Revanth Reddy addressing a press conference in Hyderabad on Monday. G. RAMAKRISHNA

Won't accept Adanis' ₹100 cr. donation for university: Revanth

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy said the government has decided not to accept the ₹100 crore donation from chairman of the Adani Group Gautam Adani to the Young India Skills University in the State to avoid unnecessary criticism.

Though the Adani Group donated ₹100 crore as a part of the corporate social responsibility (CSR) to the newly established Skill University, the government wants to avoid criticism in view of the recent allegations against the Adani Group, the Chief Minister said on Monday.

The decision has been informed to the Adani Group through a letter by Principal Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, he said, adding that the letter requested the Adani Foundation not to transfer the promised amount to the University. He also made it clear that not a single rupee has been accepted into the government's account, including the Adani Group. "Though the CSR funds are beneficial to the State and the youngsters, I and my Cabinet colleagues don't want to be embroiled in unnecessary discussions that would dent the government's image," he said.

Principal Secretary (IT and Industries) Jayesh Ranjan in his letter addressed to Priti G. Adani, chairperson of Adani Foundation, stated that the government has so far not asked any of the donors for physical transfer of funds since the University had not received the IT exemption under Section 80G. "Though this exemption order has been received recently, I have been instructed by the Chief Minister not to seek transfer of funds in view of the present circumstances and arising controversies," Mr. Jayesh said.

The Chief Minister also lashed out at the BRS for criticising the Congress government and displayed pictures of K. Chandrashekar Rao and K.T. Rama Rao meeting Mr. Adani.

Adani row: Stalin endorses Senthilbalaji's contention

The T.N. Minister had made the comments last week in the wake of the indictment of industrialist Gautam Adani and others in a United States court on charges of fraud and bribery

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday endorsed Electricity Minister V. Senthilbalaji's contention that there was no commercial link between the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (Tangedco) and Adani Group firms.

Responding to a query on the issue during an interaction with the media, the Chief Minister said, "The Minister for that department [Mr. Senthilbalaji] has spoken. Please do not twist it."

Mr. Senthilbalaji had made the comments last week in the wake of the indictment of industrialist Gautam Adani and others in a United States court on charges of fraud and bribery. To a query on PMK founder S. Ramadoss's demand that the Chief Minister reveal whom Mr. Adani met in Tamil Nadu, Mr. Stalin said, "He [Dr. Ramadoss] does not have any other job, and will keep issuing some statement or the other. There is no necessity for us to answer them."

M.K. Stalin.

To a query on PMK founder S. Ramadoss' demand that the CM should explain who Mr. Adani met in Tamil Nadu, Mr. Stalin said: "He [Dr. Ramadoss] does not have any other job and will keep issuing some statement or the other every other day."

When asked about the steps taken in the light of the prediction of rain in the Cauvery delta region, Mr. Stalin said, "Arrangements are being made. There is no issue. We have given instructions to the Collectors and officials concerned."

When asked if the government was expecting heavy rain, Mr. Stalin said, "It does not matter whether we are expecting rain or not. We are prepared for it. We are prepared for everything."

To a query on the issues that Tamil Nadu MPs would raise in the winter session of Parliament, Mr. Stalin said, "We held a meeting with the MPs and discussed the issues that they should raise. They will speak accordingly."

A.P. police searching for Ram Gopal Varma

Rajulapudi Srinivas
ONGOLE

Two teams from the Andhra Pradesh Police, with five personnel in each team, are on the lookout for film director Ram Gopal Varma, who was accused of posting edited images of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, and their family members, in Hyderabad.

Officers from the Maddipadu Police Station in Prakasam district confirmed on Monday night that they will arrest Mr. Varma once they trace him.

Ram Gopal Varma

Earlier on Monday, the director had expressed his willingness, through his lawyer, to cooperate with the police and proposed to participate in the investigation 'digitally', citing advancements in technology.

The case, registered on November 11 at Maddipadu Police Station, accuses Mr. Varma of posting edited images of the political figures and their family members in a manner deemed indecent on social media platforms.

"Physical presence is unnecessary in today's era of digital policing," Mr. Varma's lawyer stated outside his residence in Hyderabad. He emphasised that under the new Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), hybrid modes of investigation are permissible for less serious offenses. "We have assured full cooperation virtually and have already communicated our willingness to the authorities via WhatsApp and speed post," the lawyer said, adding that they are awaiting a response from the police.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	28.3	16.7	Kozhikode	—	34.8	26.4
Ahmedabad	—	31.2	17.8	Kurnool	—	31.2	19.4
Aizawl	—	25.7	13.3	Lucknow	—	28.7	12.4
Allahabad	—	29.6	13.4	Madurai	—	29.4	23.3
Bengaluru	—	27.6	18.5	Mangaluru	—	33.3	22.6
Bhopal	—	27.8	9.6	Mumbai	—	33.1	19.0
Bhubaneswar	—	28.8	16.1	Mysuru	—	29.0	17.0
Chandigarh	—	26.9	11.0	New Delhi	—	25.8	14.0
Chennai	—	29.5	24.6	Patna	—	26.6	17.4
Coimbatore	—	30.2	23.0	Port Blair	2.2	30.5	27.3
Dehradun	—	26.2	10.4	Puducherry	—	27.9	23.2
Gangtok	1	13.7	9.1	Pune	—	30.3	16.2
Goa	—	33.0	23.0	Raipur	—	30.0	14.4
Guwahati	—	27.0	16.6	Ranchi	—	25.0	10.6
Hubballi	—	30.0	15.0	Shillong	—	18.0	8.1
Hyderabad	—	28.4	15.0	Shimla	—	16.6	9.0
Imphal	—	24.0	13.1	Srinagar	—	15.4	4.0
Jaipur	—	28.7	15.7	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.8	24.8
Kochi	—	31.8	25.2	Tiruchi	—	28.7	23.4
Kohima	—	18.4	6.7	Vijayawada	—	29.8	20.2
Kolkata	—	27.0	16.5	Visakhapatnam	—	29.3	23.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.17	.44	42	290	145	
Bengaluru	.6	.15	70	73	106	
Chennai	.15	.30	18	231	140	
Delhi	.21	107	99	418	392	
Hyderabad	.6	.27	41	285	—	
Kolkata	.14	.98	40	265	199	
Lucknow	.11	.38	64	312	275	
Mumbai	.12	119	32	249	181	
Pune	.28	.97	56	215	161	
Visakhapatnam	.11	.43	34	212	131	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Durgapur, West Bengal recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 360 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 24

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Munambam residents to scale down protests

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The relay hunger strike by Munambam residents, in protest against the Kerala State Waqf Board's claim over their property, will be converted into a prayer protest.

The people of the coastal village in Ernakulam district have been protesting for 44 days over the issue.

The hunger strike is being held under the aegis of the Munambam Land Protection Council. The council has decided to soften its agitation and shift to the new mode considering the positive response it had received from the State government and the Munambam judicial commission, said Joseph Benny, convener of the land protection committee of Munambam.

The government had appointed C.N. Ramachandran Nair as the judicial commission to look into the issue.

Mr. Benny said the samiti won't resort to any aggressive agitations. Peaceful protests would continue till the rights of the residents were secured. The spiritual leaders, who have been backing the protest, urged the protesters to pray for an early settlement. He said the committee would extend its cooperation to the judicial commission. It was waiting for the government to release the terms of reference of the commission to finalise its strategies.

The government had assured the protesters that it would initiate steps to protect their interests. It had also facilitated an online meeting of the protesters with the Chief Minister.

Vintage beauties

Timeless wonders: Vintage cars participating in the Goa-Chennai rally take a break at Kumarakom in Kerala on Monday. A total of 21 vintage cars from 15 countries are taking part in the 18-day rally, South Indian Classic 2024. Shunning highways, the drivers traverse through small towns and villages. After covering three States and 2,609 km, the rally will conclude in Chennai on December 1. VISHNU PRATHAP

BJP Kerala chief faces heat in party over Palakkad fiasco

The Hindu Bureau
PALAKKAD/KOZHIKODE

The growing discontent within the BJP has spilled out with the defeat of the party candidate C. Krishnakumar in the Palakkad Assembly byelection. BJP's Palakkad municipal chairperson Prameela Sasidharan blamed the defeat on party State president K. Surendran for his "flawed candidate selection".

Ms. Sasidharan said the party's municipal councillors had expressed dissatisfaction with Mr. Krishnakumar's candidature, but the leadership ignored it.

She said the 28 councillors had no responsibility in the party's trouncing and denied allegations that the municipal governance had led to the rout.

Despite their objections, she said the municipal councillors of the BJP worked unitedly for the party, but the people did not accept the candidate.

Had it been someone else, the defeat would not have been so crushing, she said.

"Let the national leadership examine the reasons for the loss of votes for Mr. Krishnakumar," she said. Palakkad was one of the nearly a dozen constituencies rated as 'winnable' by the BJP.

BJP national council member and councillor N. Sivarajan, too, criticised Mr. Krishnakumar and P. Raghunath, BJP State vice-president, for the party's defeat.

Candidate's stance

However, Mr. Krishnakumar said no councillor had worked against him and that the party did not lose its vote share in Palakkad municipality.

Meanwhile, Mr. Surendran sidestepped questions about his reported willingness to step down in the wake of the party's debacle in Palakkad.

Kerala girl takes taekwondo to Kilimanjaro, eyes world record

Sam Paul A.
ALAPPUZHA

What excites her most these days is reaching new heights. In a show of sheer determination, Anna Mary, a 13-year-old girl from Cherthala in Alappuzha, has climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, reaching Stella Point (5,756 metres/18,885 ft), one of the summits of the highest free-standing mountain in the world and the tallest peak in Africa.

The girl, accompanied by her father Shine Varghese, completed the six-day trek via the Lemosho route, covering 46.5 km. According to the Mountain Climbing Certificate issued by the Tanzania National Parks Conservation Commissioner, she reached Stella Point on November 6 at 6.10 a.m. There she performed taekwondo poomsae and kicks, potentially setting a record. Ms. Anna has been learning the martial arts since the age of three.

Anna Mary performing taekwondo at Mount Kilimanjaro.

'Test of endurance'

Though Anna initially aimed to summit Uhuru Peak, the highest point on Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895 m/19,341 ft), she chose to stop at Stella Point due to "exhaustion". "We chose the Lemosho route for its scenic beauty and gradual ascent. Still, I faced a lot of challenges but enjoyed every moment. The summit day was a gruelling test of endurance. Starting at 12.30 a.m. we battled cold, dark, and windy conditions to reach Stella Point," she recalls.

The girl, a Class 8 student at St. Mary's Girls High School, Cherthala, found the ascent of the Barranco Wall, a natural towering rock face, one of the most thrilling parts of her expedition. "It tested my climbing skills. I have practised artificial wall climbing, which helped me navigate the steep incline," she says. The return journey brought her total trekking distance to 68 km over seven days.

SC says land allotment to MPs, MLAs and others in Hyderabad unconstitutional

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday said the Andhra Pradesh government 'artfully' disguised State largesse to judges, MPs, MLAs, bureaucrats, journalists and "persons of eminence" by allotting 245 acres of public land to them for a pittance in 2005 after declaring them as "deserving sections of the society".

A Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna, in a 64-page judgment, declared the allotment 'unconstitutional' and 'arbitrary'.

"Benefits granted to these privileged and well-off classes come at a cost, as they effectively deprive and deny the essentials to the marginalised and socially vulnerable populations... This is a classic case of executive action steeped in arbitrariness, but clothed in the guise of legitimacy," the Chief Justice, who authored the judgment, observed.

The land allocated was by the government of the day within the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation limits.

The huge parcel of government property was virtually gifted to cooperative societies composed of MPs, MLAs, Supreme Court and High Court judges, bureaucrats, State government employees, Defence personnel, journalists, and eminent persons.

Chief Justice Khanna noted that not only were these classes of people allotted land preferentially, but the price of such land was also discounted to the basic rate, instead of the prevalent market rate.

"When the government allocates land at discounted rates to the privileged few, it engenders a system of inequality, conferring upon them a material advantage that remains inaccessible to the common citizen. This preferential treatment conveys the message that certain individuals are entitled to more, not due to the necessities of their public office or the public good, but simply because of their status," the Supreme Court held.

The current State of Telangana argued in favour of the 2005 allotment. It said that these people formed a "distinct class".

But the Chief Justice brushed aside the contention of the State, saying the classification should be both reasonable and fair, and not conjured up just in time to facilitate the distribution of valuable public resources like land to the well-heeled and influential at the cost of the common citizen.

"Not only must a distinct classification exist but such classification should not be arbitrary, artificial or artful," Chief Justice Khanna wrote.

Return to action

The world must move beyond empty rhetoric on climate change

After two extra nights of extended negotiations in Baku, countries finally gave up on bridging their differences and settled on a "roadmap" that has left nearly all developing countries frustrated, developed nations relieved and the planet, still on a perilous path. Officially, the CoP Presidency may claim progress. The text, which was passed early in the morning, included a commitment to triple public finance for developing countries, raising the goal from $100 billion annually to $300 billion by 2035. In addition, countries pledged to work to scale finance from public and private sources to $1.3 trillion per year by 2035. In the world of international negotiations, it is common for countries to bring maximalist demands – asking for the most optimistic outcomes – only to settle for these being scaled back. However, in this case, the gap between what was demanded and agreed upon is striking: the $300 billion figure represents just 20% of the original demand. While $300 billion a year is no small sum, other meaningful concessions would have made its impact far greater. For example, if the funds were predominantly public finance, facilitating the affordable transfer of technology from developed to developing countries, or supporting investments in infrastructure that could help vulnerable populations in the Global South adapt to climate change. Unfortunately, none was included.

Despite decades of scientific progress in developed countries that have rigorously outlined the threat posed by rising carbon emissions, these nations have repeatedly backtracked on their responsibility to support meaningful climate solutions. Moreover, many have failed to discourage developing countries from pursuing fossil-fuel-based development. This shift is likely a reflection of broader geopolitical changes – such as the decline of the globalised world order – and a reduction in public support and political will in the West. As a result, climate action has increasingly been framed within the logic of market competition rather than global solidarity. The recent CoP talks revealed that climate negotiations are now entangled with trade conflicts. In this year's talks, wordplay and political posturing often took precedence over meaningful action. It is possible that next year, there will be a repeat of the drama surrounding the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, especially with the impending return of a Trump presidency. Next year's CoP, in Brazil, will be a symbolic return to the country that hosted the 1992 Earth Summit, where the world first recognised that action, not just talk, was needed to tackle global challenges. As the climate crisis grows more urgent, it is time for the world to revisit that commitment and move beyond empty promises to real, transformative action.

Moral stain

Arrest warrant against Netanyahu will deepen Israel's isolation

The decision by the International Criminal Court (ICC) to issue arrest warrants against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza marks a diplomatic and moral setback for Israel, which has been attacking the tiny Palestinian enclave for over 13 months. The ICC has also issued arrest warrants for two Hamas leaders, Yahya Sinwar and Mohammed Deif, regarding the October 7, 2023 attack on Israel. Sinwar, Hamas's chief in Gaza, was killed by the Israeli army on October 16, and Deif, the head of Hamas's military wing, was reportedly killed in an Israeli air strike in July. Thus, the practical focus of the warrants remains on Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant. Mr. Netanyahu has rejected the warrant as "anti-Semitic", a frequent retort to criticism. The U.S., Israel's closest ally, has said it "fundamentally rejects" the ICC's decision. The ICC does not have a police force to carry out arrests, and until the accused are arrested, their trial cannot take place since the court does not have a mandate to conduct trials in absentia. Nevertheless, the warrants would complicate the ability of Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant to travel freely across the globe. As the Rome Statute of the ICC has been recognised by 124 countries, they would be legally obligated to arrest them if they enter their territories. The ICC asserts there are "reasonable grounds" to believe that Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant bear "criminal responsibility" for causing "mass starvation" and "deliberately targeting" medical facilities in Gaza. Israel contends that it is fighting terrorism and adhering to international law. However, the numbers from Gaza suggest otherwise – nearly 44,000 deaths and more than 1,00,000 wounded. And, Gaza's population of around 2.3 million has been displaced, some multiple times.

The International Court of Justice has previously urged Israel to take measures to avoid genocide in Gaza, and the UN Security Council has called for a ceasefire. Yet, Israel continues its military actions with the full backing of the Biden administration, resulting in more deaths and suffering. This war has left a moral stain on Israel and its supporters, and the ICC arrest warrants serve to endorse growing international criticism of Israel's actions. While Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant may not be arrested or tried, the warrants deepen Israel's international isolation and complicate its diplomatic relations. The sooner Mr. Netanyahu ends this aimless, disastrous and disproportionate war and shifts towards diplomacy, the better it will be for the state of Israel.

The Constitution still thrives, let it show India the way

Shashi Tharoor

a fourth-term Indian National Congress Member of the Lok Sabha for Thiruvananthapuram, and the award-winning author of 26 books, including 'The Battle of Belonging: On Nationalism, Patriotism and What it Means to be Indian' (2021). He is a member of the Congress Working Committee

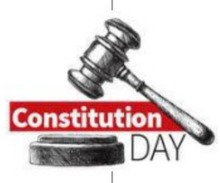
This month marks the 75th anniversary of the adoption by the Constituent Assembly of the draft Constitution of India, on November 26, 1949. The Union government has announced that it intends to commemorate this momentous occasion with a special joint sitting of Parliament. There are bound to be several self-congratulatory speeches, from all sides of our fractious political divide. But the speech that should haunt us all is that of the principal draftsman of the Constitution, B.R. Ambedkar, on the eve of the Constitution's adoption. On November 25, 1949, in his magisterial summation of the work of the Drafting Committee he chaired, and before commending its work to the Assembly, he pointedly observed: "however good a Constitution may be, it is sure to turn out bad because those who are called to work it, happen to be a bad lot. However bad a Constitution may be, it may turn out to be good if those who are called to work it, happen to be a good lot."

The working of the Constitution, Dr. Ambedkar pointed out, depended on how the people and the political parties applied it. The drafters had made provision for relatively easy amendment, so as to permit the document to keep up with the needs of the times. But the rest depended on the way successive generations of its custodians chose to implement it.

The lacunae that B.R. Ambedkar identified

Dr. Ambedkar highlighted the fact that "there is complete absence of two things in Indian society" – equality and fraternity. "On the 26th of January 1950," he declared, "we are going to enter into a life of contradictions. In politics we will have equality and in social and economic life we will have inequality. In politics we will be recognizing the principle of one man one vote and one vote one value. In our social and economic life, we shall, by reason of our social and economic structure, continue to deny the principle of one man one value. How long shall we continue to live this life of contradictions? How long shall we continue to deny equality in our social and economic life?"

In calling for a social and not merely political democracy to emerge from the Constitution, Dr. Ambedkar stressed the absence of fraternity as the second major ingredient that was missing in India. "Fraternity means a sense of common brotherhood of all Indians – of Indians being one people. It is the principle which gives unity and solidarity to social life." But thanks to the caste system – the entire structure of caste, he averred, was 'anti-national' – religious divisions and the absence of a common sense of nationhood among some Indians, fraternity had not yet been achieved. But it was indispensable, since liberty, equality and fraternity were all intertwined and could not flourish independently of one another. "Without equality," he pointed out, "liberty would produce the supremacy of the few over the many. Equality without liberty would kill individual initiative. Without fraternity, liberty would produce the supremacy of the few over the many. Without fraternity, liberty and equality could not become a natural course of things. It would require a constable to enforce them."



What has changed

Today, 75 years later, it is well worth asking what progress we have made to achieve the aims of the Constitution's drafters, and in particular to fill the lacunae that Dr. Ambedkar identified. Equality has advanced, no doubt, with the abolition of untouchability being accompanied by the world's oldest and farthest-reaching affirmative action programme, in the form of reservations, initially for Scheduled Castes and then for the Other Backward Classes (OBC). These reservations, which were initially intended to be temporary, have now been entrenched in our system and may be said to be politically unchallengeable. But the task of promoting social and economic equality, which Dr. Ambedkar pointed to, is far from complete. The clamour for further opportunities for those who believe that Indian society continues to deny them the equality of outcomes that the numbers warrant, continues to roil our politics. The escalating demand for a caste census is bound to have further implications for the evolution of India's constitutional practice.

As for fraternity, the mobilisation of votes in our contentious democracy in the name of caste, creed, region and language have ensured that the social and psychological sense of oneness that Dr. Ambedkar spoke about, is still, at best, a work in progress. But there is no doubt that the sense of nationhood that he felt had not yet come into existence has now become embedded across the country. One only needs to look at the crowds at a cricket match involving the Indian team, or the national outrage and mourning after an international conflict such as the Kargil war (1999) or the Galwan incident (2020), to be aware that there is a strong sense of nationhood despite the persistence of local or sectarian identities.

Yet, by reifying caste reservations, India has promoted equality but arguably undermined fraternity. Fraternity had a special place in Dr. Ambedkar's vision; the word was, in many ways, his distinctive contribution to India's constitutional discourse. It also had an economic dimension, with the implicit idea that the assets of the better-off would be used to uplift the untouchables and other unfortunates. Fraternity would both result from and lead to the erosion of social and caste hierarchies. But, as the sociologist Dipankar Gupta has argued, the extension of reservations to the OBCs saw caste as 'an important political resource to be plumbed in perpetuity'. Professor Gupta avers that this 'is not in the spirit of enlarging fraternity, as the Ambedkar proposals are'; while Dr. Ambedkar's ultimate aim was the annihilation of caste from Indian society, for Mandal, caste was not to be "removed", but to be "represented".' It entrenched caste rather than eliminating it from public life.

Highs and worrying lows

This debate may well go on. Still, we can be grateful that the ascent to power of the very elements of Indian politics who had initially rejected the Constitution has not resulted in its abandonment. There is a certain irony to a Bharatiya Janata Party government celebrating a document that its forebears in the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and the Jana Sangh had found "un-Indian" and devoid of soul. That soul has evolved over 75 years and 106 amendments, and the Constitution still thrives. But the hollowing out of many of the institutions created by the Constitution, the diminishing of Parliament, pressures on the judiciary and the undermining of the democratic spirit – leading to the V-Dem Institute labelling India as an "electoral autocracy", policed by the "constable" Dr. Ambedkar warned against – mean that much still remains to be done by its custodians.

"Independence," Dr. Ambedkar said in concluding his memorable speech, "is no doubt a matter of joy. But let us not forget that this independence has thrown on us great responsibilities. By independence, we have lost the excuse of blaming the British for anything going wrong. If hereafter things go wrong, we will have nobody to blame except ourselves." Seventy-five years later, let us vow to the reduce the number of things we need to blame ourselves for – and let the Constitution show us the way.

> But a speech that should haunt all Indians is that of its principal draftsman on the eve of the Constitution's adoption — on people and political parties making it work

Feminist ideology in India's constitutional discourse

Faisal C.K.

Deputy Law Secretary to the Government of Kerala

In the Indian scenario, even calling the framers of the Constitution of India as 'founding fathers' is very patriarchal and paternalistic. The fact that the 'founding mothers' of the Indian Republic, the eminent women in the Constituent Assembly, too painstakingly co-authored the Constitution, has been spitefully hidden from the popular imagination. Achyut Chetan writes in his *Founding Mothers of the Indian Republic: Gender Politics of the Framing of the Constitution* (2022): "It is through the dynamics of will, consent, and, frequently enough, dissent, that women members carried the feminist movement through and beyond the Constituent Assembly. Each article of the Constitution, therefore, is a point of diffraction in the history of Indian feminism. The Constitution is drafted not just by the consent of women but also by their will."

However, Christine Keating in her *Framing the Postcolonial Sexual Contract: Democracy, Fraternalism, and State Authority in India* (2007) demonstrated how the 'founding fathers' constitutionally subjugated the woman: "The Constituent Assembly struggled to reconcile their commitment to an egalitarian polity with their efforts to build consent for the political authority of the new Indian state...the assembly settled on a compromise, what I call the postcolonial sexual contract, to resolve that dilemma: they established equality in the public sphere as a fundamental right for women yet sanctioned discriminatory personal laws that maintained women's subordination in the family in order to secure fraternal acquiescence to the centralized rule."

The beginnings

The founding mothers cobbled an intersectional alliance with B.R. Ambedkar for the realisation of social revolution. They shared his sceptical attitude towards the romantic celebration of Indian culture which is deeply anchored in the brahmanical patriarchy. Amrit Kaur, a prominent founding mother of the Constitution, asserted in 1932 that the women of India were no longer willing to submit to standards, whether local, political, or ethical, which had been set for them by the male conscience of the community. The founding mothers laboured in and out of the Constituent Assembly to break the patriarchal ecosystem. But the nation has failed them deplorably.

> The fact that the 'founding mothers' of the Indian Republic too painstakingly co-authored the Constitution of India has been brushed over

Fight against a goliath

The founding mothers conceived the Fundamental Rights not just as injunctions against the state but also as a social charter that restores their inherent freedoms curtailed by the behemoths in the private sphere such as religion and family which enjoyed privileged insulation from political interventions. Hansa Mehta and Amrit Kaur demanded that a Uniform Civil Code capable of arresting the aggrandising social-patriarchal power must be included in the Fundamental Rights.

And when the Uniform Civil Code was relegated to the Directive Principles, they played a remarkable role in bringing a prelude to the Directive Principles, that they are 'fundamental in the governance of the country and the state has a duty to apply them in making laws'. This prelude, incorporated at the behest of the founding mothers, played a vital role in the ascendancy of the Directive Principles in the constitutional jurisprudence of India in the 1980s.

Begum Aizaz Rasul articulated that secularism was the most outstanding feature of the Constitution. In the Sub Committee on Fundamental Rights, Hansa Mehta tried to limit the right to religion as she believed that it would curtail women's right to equality and social reforms such as the abolition of child marriage. Hansa Mehta and Amrit Kaur demanded the term 'free practice of religion' be replaced by 'freedom of religious worship' as a constitutional carte blanche for religion would impede Indian women's emancipation.

In Amrit Kaur's note of dissent on the 'Freedom of Religion', she vigorously underscored the anti-woman tendency of religious practices: "[unbridled freedom of religion] would not only bar the future legislation but would even invalidate past legislations such as the Widow Remarriage Act, the Sarda Act or even law abolishing sati. Everyone is aware how many evil practices which one would like to abolish, are carried on in the name of religion, for example, purdah, polygamy...dedication of girls to temples, to mention a few." A disheartening chapter in the life of the Indian Republic is that the man's right to religion conquered the woman's right to equality and dignity.

Still a struggle

Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay believed that the Constitution heralded a new beginning for women in India as it guaranteed equality and justice for them. But this euphoria did not last for long. The Government of India's official report, 'Towards Equality: Report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India' (1974), concluded that the Indian Republic had failed to achieve equality for its womenfolk even after two decades of the promise made in the Preamble.

After the passing away of the 'founding mothers', Indian feminist constitutionalism has been affected. Despite strong women leaders in politics, India has not been blessed with a feminist stateswoman or jurist. Women's presence in the corridors of power remains abysmal. The Uniform Civil Code designed to dispel gender injustice has been a cheque drawn in favour of the Indian woman by the founding fathers and mothers. But it has been dishonoured by the Republic's political bankers despite sufficient jurisprudential funds at their disposal.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Baku's bleak outlook

The Baku climate conference appears to have delivered a deadly blow to international efforts in limiting global warming. At a time when the developing nations are already struggling to emerge out of the economic slowdown triggered by the ongoing wars in Europe and West Asia, it would be an impossible task for them to mobilise the necessary finances for adaptation and climate mitigation. In addition, the political change in the United States will bring its own set of challenges in the journey of global climate actions. With developed countries reneging on their responsibility to help the developing nations fight climate change, the outlook for global climate mitigation efforts appears bleak. As such, the Global South needs to find innovative ways to find the resources to fight climate change on its own.

Kosaraju Chandramouli,
Hyderabad

Manipur burning

It is saddening that the State of Manipur has been burning for months and there appears to be wanton and wilful inaction on the part of both the State and Centre in not taking any meaningful steps to curb the incendiarism.

The cauldron of enmity and vengeance may boil over at any time. Time waits for none. It includes the ruling party, the Bharatiya Janata Party too.

Mani Nataraajan,
Chennai

In Jeddah

While cricket is undeniably a beloved sport in our country and the Indian Premier League provides a platform for exceptional talent, the astronomical figures involved in player auctions leave many common citizens bewildered and disheartened ('Sport' page, "Super Sunday for Pant, Shreyas and Venkatesh", November 25).

At a time when millions in our country are struggling with scant basic necessities, the idea of spending crores on individual players seems both extravagant and misplaced.

Such immense financial outlays not only widen the disparity between the privileged and the underprivileged but also set a precedent where sportsmanship takes a back seat to commercialisation. Could not a fraction of this amount be directed toward the grassroots development of cricket, nurturing rural talent, or supporting other sports that struggle for recognition and resources?

C.M. Samuel,
Thazhathangadi, Kerala

Rishab Pant's journey from a harrowing car accident to becoming the most expensive player in IPL history is a testament to his resilience, determination, and a little bit of destiny.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Jharkhand's big picture, the key elements

The electorate faced two alternative narratives, but the emphatic victory of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-led alliance was based on a campaign that struck a chord with voters

Suhas Palshikar
Sanjay Kumar
Sandeep Shastri

A State-level party has, yet again, caused a roadblock for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). While details fit into the jigsaw puzzle of explaining victories and losses, the big picture presented by Jharkhand has two key elements. First, it was about the tenacity and the ability of State-level forces to face and respond to all-India intrusions and, second, the tough competition between regional identity-based politics centred around Adivasis *vis-à-vis* an attempt to draw in Adivasis toward a set of aggressive and all-India concerns tha are centred on cultural identity.

What was in the sauce: 'The victory of the INDIA coalition was closely linked to the support enjoyed by the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha in the tribal pockets and the corollary support from its alliance partners in non-tribal areas'. ANI

A factor that propelled the INDIA coalition to power was the perception that State-level issues were central to this election

The two sides

At the tactical level, the emphatic victory of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM)-led alliance was a victory: of effective coalition management and of a campaign that focused on issues that struck a chord with voters. But beyond that, Jharkhand saw a clear competition between two alternative narratives. The JMM-led government was defending its track record in governance and its image of representing tribal interests. The BJP-led alliance sought to present a wider narrative to try and appeal to a wider cross-section and aggressively attack the incumbent government on non-performance and high levels of corruption. The BJP's narrative also had a strong dose of Hindutva mobilisation that sat awkwardly with the Adivasis of Jharkhand's many tribal groups.

The results indicate that the JMM alliance was able to hold on to its tribal vote and make inroads in non-tribal areas on account of its alliance with the Congress. While the BJP did well in the non-tribal belt, it was not able to make deeper inroads in tribal areas. In the winning alliance, the JMM was the leader, winning 80% of the seats it contested. The Congress clearly benefited from being the junior alliance partner, securing a strike rate of just over 50%.

The Lokniti-CSDS survey (*see methodology*) provides some indications of what contributed to the INDIA coalition's win. While it scored in terms of better coordination within the alliance which brought together a diverse social coalition and support across regions, the NDA coalition depended largely on the BJP's efforts. There was a much fairer distribution of seats within the INDIA coalition while the NDA saw the BJP contest seven of every 10 seats. The INDIA coalition's united message worked to its advantage. It won support across age groups, did very well in rural areas, drew strong support from the poor and middle classes and the less educated, and finally, built a social coalition of support that included key segments among the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes, Muslims and Yadavs. The diverse nature of its social coalition reflected the impact of the different parties in the coalition which included the JMM, the Congress, Rashtriya Janata Dal and the Communist parties.

Voters and polarisation

The Lokniti-CSDS survey clearly indicates the strong levels of polarisation among voters. Two thirds of them who were fully satisfied with the Soren government, voted for the INDIA coalition. On the other hand, two thirds of those fully dissatisfied with the incumbent government voted for the NDA, suggesting that more than satisfaction, voters' prior decision to vote for a particular coalition was crucial. While net satisfaction with the Narendra Modi government was much higher than that with the Soren government, the fact that this was a State election seemed to matter. The support for the party was clearly central to the voting decision, with more than half the respondents saying they cast their vote keeping in mind the party concerned.

Data indicate that voters were not very happy with the development record on the ground. They believed that the state of industrialisation and corruption had worsened in the past five years, while the situation regarding communal violence and naxalism had improved. Yet, two factors need to be considered. First, those who highlighted unemployment, poverty, inflation and the lack of development as factors continued to invest in the INDIA coalition. Second, women voters seem to have favoured the INDIA coalition in larger numbers. The impact of the Maiya Samman Yojana appeared to be a factor.

Role of leaders

Yet another factor aiding the INDIA coalition was the perception among voters that State-level issues were central to this election. More than half of those who took this stand favoured the winning coalition. On the other hand, just one in every 10 persons who believed that State issues mattered voted for NDA candidates. The impact of national leaders in supporting the coalition they led was also visible. Most of those who voted for the BJP endorsed the role of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in their voting choice. Similarly, when reflecting on the role of Rahul Gandhi, supporters of the INDIA coalition clearly highlighted his impact. Hemant Soren was the preferred Chief Minister choice of one-thirds of the respondents. Thus, while the BJP banked largely on the charisma of Mr. Modi, the INDIA coalition had a combination of national- and State-level leaders who contributed to heightened support for its candidates.

Thus, the victory of the INDIA coalition was closely linked to the support enjoyed by the JMM in the tribal pockets and the corollary support from its alliance partners in non-tribal areas. It scored over the NDA in securing support across key demographic indicators. Though there was a strong perception of increased corruption under the incumbent government, it was still voted back as other key factors emerged as key influencers determining voter choice.

The BJP did try to mobilise voters on issues of the Uniform Civil Code and Bangladeshi infiltrators, but voters were more concerned with their local identity issues – as is seen from the strong feeling voters expressed on the question of Sarna identity. Except for the Santhal community, the BJP was not able to attract many among other Adivasi groups. In the long run, the challenge for the BJP will be to connect with Adivasis. How it manages that with its overall ambition to also popularise Hindutva will decide the future course of political competition in the State.

Suhas Palshikar taught political science and is the Chief Editor of Studies in Indian Politics; Sanjay Kumar is Professor and Co-director Lokniti-CSDS; Sandeep Shastri is Director-Academics, NITTE Education Trust and the National Coordinator of the Lokniti Network

Methodology

The findings are from the Jharkhand Assembly Election Study 2024 that was conducted by the Lokniti programme of the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi, between November 12-19, 2024. A total of 3,035 respondents were interviewed across 30 Assembly Constituencies and 150 polling stations of Jharkhand.

Using multi-stage random sampling, this procedure ensured that the selected sample was fully representative of the cross-section of voters. The constituencies where the survey was conducted were randomly selected using the probability proportional to size method (adjusting the probability of choosing a particular constituency according to the size of its electorate). Thereafter, five polling stations were selected in each of the sampled constituencies using the systematic random sampling method. Finally, 40 respondents were selected at random using the systematic random sampling method from the electoral rolls of the sampled polling stations. Of these 40, we set a target of 20 interviews per polling station.

Once we identified our sample, trained field investigators conducted face-to-face interviews using a pre-designed mobile App. The questionnaire was translated into Hindi. Though the sample is relatively small, the total number of voters interviewed represent the social reality of the voters in Jharkhand, i.e., the sample is truly representative with regard to the social composition of the State. Weights were applied to make corrections for under-representation of any social groups. Weights were also applied based on the actual result.

The study was directed by Sanjay Kumar, Suhas Palshikar and Sandeep Shastri.

The issue of governments, track records

Sandeep Shastri

Did the performance of the central and State governments impact on the voting preference of the voters in Jharkhand? The Lokniti-CSDS survey indicates that voting was largely based on local specificities.

Further, the party preference of voters appears to influence their analysis of the performance of the central and State governments.

Voters in Jharkhand were positive in their assessment of both the central and State governments. There was a marginally higher level of satisfaction with the central government. If one were to view net satisfaction (satisfaction minus dissatisfaction) with the two levels of government, the central government had a six-percentage point higher assessment than the State government. This assessment was largely on party lines. Two-thirds of those fully satisfied with the central government voted for the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidates (68%). On the other hand, seven of every 10 persons of those fully dissatisfied with the central government favoured the INDIA coalition (*Table 1*).

When it came to the State government, two thirds of those fully satisfied with the State government favoured the INDIA coalition, while two thirds of those fully dissatisfied with the State government voted for the NDA (*Table 2*). This highlights the possibility that satisfaction and vote choice may not have a 'cause-effect' relationship. Instead, voters' predetermined choices shape their assessment of other issues including the performance of the governments.

Table 1: Satisfaction with central government and party choice

Satisfaction with the work done by the BJP-led NDA government at Centre	Party voted for (%)	
	INDIA	NDA
Fully satisfied (37%)	23	68
Somewhat satisfied (36%)	52	26
Somewhat dissatisfied (12%)	60	22
Fully dissatisfied (8%)	71	6

Note: Rest voted for other parties

Table 2: Satisfaction with State government and party choice

Satisfaction with the work done by the State government	Party voted for (%)	
	INDIA	NDA
Fully satisfied (29%)	62	27
Somewhat satisfied (41%)	44	37
Somewhat dissatisfied (13%)	32	54
Fully dissatisfied (10%)	9	65

Note: Rest voted for other parties

Other issues

How did respondents assess progress on key issues? There was a lukewarm response to progress on industrialisation. There was a visible assertion about the rise of corruption in the last five years. Respondents felt that both naxal attacks and communal violence had reduced. They also felt that religious harmony remained more or less the same (*Table 3*). Barring corruption, the less critical assessment of the government on other key parameters could well explain the success of the JMM-led coalition.

If one were to view net satisfaction with the two levels of government, the central government had a six-percentage point higher assessment than the State government

The survey also indicated the unhappiness of the respondents with rising inflation and shrinking employment opportunities. On availability of drinking water, improvement of roads, performance of government schools, supply of electricity, availability of health-care facilities and the safety of women, a majority said that these had improved or remained the same (*Table 4*). Thus, the absence of a strong negative reaction to the State government, save on the question of corruption, would have helped the incumbent government win another term.

Table 3: Voter Perception of Key issues over the last five years (%)

In the last five years, have the following things...	Increased	Remained the same	Decreased
Industrialisation	13	37	38
Naxal attacks	13	30	47
Corruption	36	26	31
Communal violence	22	29	40
Religious harmony	27	51	13

Note: Rest did not respond

Table 4: Public perception of changes in key sectors (%)

In the last five years, have the following things...	Increased	Remained the same	Decreased
Inflation	60	19	17
Employment opportunities	18	31	45
Drinking water	37	46	12
Condition of roads	36	45	15
Government schools	32	50	13
Supply of electricity	46	37	13
Health-care services	30	52	13
Security of women	30	52	12

Note: Rest did not respond

Upper castes and OBCs supported the NDA; there was overwhelming Adivasi backing for the INDIA coalition

	Party voted for in Assembly Election 2024 (%)			
	INDIA	NDA	JLKM	Others
Upper caste	19	66	2	12
OBC	26	47	15	13
Dalit	38	39	2	21
Oraon	72	20	—	8
Santhal	42	48	5	5
Munda	60	25	3	11
Other ST	55	31	—	15
Muslims	90	6	1	3

Sandeep Shastri is Director-Academics, NITTE Education Trust and National Coordinator of the Lokniti Network

The agriculture welfare schemes, farmer focus

Kirti Sharma
Krishangi Sinha

Agriculture remains the primary source of livelihood for most of Jharkhand's population. Farmers, who are the backbone of the State's economy, were the focus of the promises and policies made by two alliances, i.e. the INDIA coalition and the NDA. The INDIA alliance's decisive victory in the State has sparked much debates on voting patterns and the factors of influence.

The Lokniti-CSDS survey sought to gauge farmers' opinions on agriculture welfare schemes and their influence on vote choice.

State policies primarily targeting farming households garnered greater satisfaction among full-time farmers, with over half the voters (55%) leaning towards the INDIA alliance, compared to one-third (29%) supporting the NDA. Similarly, among part-time farmers, nearly four in 10 (42%) strongly support the INDIA alliance, thus maintaining its lead but with a narrower margin of 4% (*Table 1*).

The welfare aspect

The data reveal a clear trend where beneficiaries of major agricultural schemes favoured the INDIA coalition over the NDA even in the case of central schemes. It suggests no direct link between welfare scheme benefits and voting preferences.

Central government schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN) were availed of by one-third of the voters (36%)/ On the other hand, 26% and 17% were the beneficiaries of other notable central government schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PM-FBY) and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PM-KMY), respectively, but a greater proportion among them voted for the INDIA coalition.

Interestingly, even in the case of State government schemes, the INDIA coalition enjoys nearly equal support from beneficiaries (24%) of the Jharkhand Krishi Rin Mafi Yojana and from beneficiaries (14%) of the Jharkhand Rajya Fasal Rahat Yojana (*Table 2*).

A significant portion of both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries remain inclined toward the INDIA coalition, reflecting the limited relevance of the schemes in terms of their impact on farmers' voting behaviour in the State.

Kirti Sharma and Krishangi Sinha are researchers at Lokniti-CSDS

Table 1: Farming households preferred INDIA over NDA

Type of farming households	Overall	Party voted for (%)	
		INDIA	NDA
Full-time farming household	27	55	29
Part-time farming household	30	42	38
Not engaged in farming	37	39	44

Table 2: Beneficiaries of farmers' welfare schemes voted for INDIA coalition; mainly for the State farming schemes

Welfare schemes for the farmers in Jharkhand		Overall	Party voted for? (%)	
			INDIA	NDA
PM Kisan Sanman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN)	Beneficiaries	36	50	37
	Non- beneficiaries	48	46	35
Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PM-FBY)	Beneficiaries	26	53	35
	Non- beneficiaries	60	46	35
Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PM-KMY)	Beneficiaries	17	56	34
	Non- beneficiaries	67	46	35
Jharkhand Krishi Rin Mafi Yojana	Beneficiaries	24	58	30
	Non- beneficiaries	63	44	35
Jharkhand Rajya Fasal Rahat Yojana	Beneficiaries	14	61	33
	Non- beneficiaries	69	46	35

Welfare politics: how government schemes shaped voting patterns

A large percentage of beneficiaries in Jharkhand voted for the INDIA bloc, irrespective of whether the Centre or the State had introduced the schemes; the reach of State government schemes was found to be less than that of Central schemes

Harishwar Dayal

The Centre and the States have introduced many welfare schemes for the people. Many of these schemes have been introduced and implemented with the objective of electoral benefits.

A State government is the implementing authority for both Central welfare schemes and those introduced by itself. In the case of Jharkhand, the reach of these schemes, however, varies widely (Table 1).

Among the Union government schemes, Public Distribution System (PDS) benefited 67% of the respondents, while the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Generation Scheme (MGNREGS) and the Awas Yojana benefited 22% and 27% of the respondents, respectively.

The reach of State government schemes was found to be less than that of Central schemes, and among them, the reach of the Muft Bijli Yojana was found to be more than the other schemes. The difference in the number of beneficiaries of welfare schemes has been because of the difference in their design, the interest of the beneficiaries, and the proactiveness of the implementing authority (Table 1).

Irrespective of the government, Centre or State, that had introduced a welfare scheme, a larger percentage of beneficiaries have voted for the incumbent INDIA bloc government. However, the difference among those who voted for this alliance and the NDA is much higher in the case of the beneficiaries of the State government schemes than the beneficiaries of the Union government schemes (Table 1).

The non-beneficiaries of most Central and State schemes were also found to have voted for the INDIA bloc. Except for PDS, Muft Bijli, and Abua Awas Yojana, a larger percentage of non-beneficiaries of all the other Central and State government schemes were found to have voted for the INDIA bloc than the NDA.

However, among them, the difference between those who voted for the INDIA bloc and the NDA has remained smaller than that in the case of beneficiaries.

Though unemployment has been an important issue in the State, a very small percentage of youth were found to be aware of the Mukhyamantri Rojgar Srijan Yojana, and even a smaller percentage were found to have registered for this scheme (Table 2).

The Maiya Samman Yojana, considered to be one of the important factors that resulted in the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-led government's victory, was widely publicised, and a large number of women registered and received ₹1,000 a month since August 2024 through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

Overall, in Jharkhand, the attribution of credit and acknowledgement of benefits from welfare schemes helped the State government. Needless to say, besides welfare benefits, other factors too contributed to the favourable voter disposition toward the State government.

Harishwar Dayal is professor at St. Xavier's College, Ranchi

Hitting the right chord: Beneficiaries of a scheme attend an event led by Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren at Torpa in Ranchi in September. ANI

Table 1: Voting pattern of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of government schemes

		Party voted for... (%)	
		INDIA	NDA
UNION GOVERNMENT SCHEMES			
PDS	Beneficiaries (67%)	47	36
	Non-beneficiaries (28%)	39	41
Ujjwala Yojana	Beneficiaries (49%)	45	37
	Non-beneficiaries (46%)	43	39
Ayushman Bharat	Beneficiaries (38%)	47	38
	Non-beneficiaries (57%)	43	38
Awas Yojana	Beneficiaries (27%)	49	39
	Non-beneficiaries (68 %)	43	37
MGNREGS	Beneficiaries (22%)	51	38
	Non-beneficiaries (71%)	43	38
STATE GOVERNMENT SCHEMES			
Muft Bijli Yojana	Beneficiaries (55%)	50	34
	Non-beneficiaries (40%)	36	43
Abua Awas Yojana	Beneficiaries (21%)	60	26
	Non-beneficiaries (75%)	40	41
Vivah Sahayata Scheme (financial assistance of ₹30,000 for marriage)	Beneficiaries (9%)	54	33
	Non-beneficiaries (82%)	43	38
Chikitsa Sahayata Yojana(medical assistance to all registered worker)	Beneficiaries (8%)	55	36
	Non-beneficiaries (81%)	43	38
Any State pension scheme	Beneficiaries (29%)	52	35
	Non-beneficiaries (66%)	41	39

Rest voted for other parties

Table 2: Outreach of youth-centric scheme

Youth-centric scheme	%
Aware of Mukhyamantri Rojgar Srijan Yojana	25
Youth who applied for this scheme	16

THE HINDU LOKNITI-CSDS Survey 2024

Policies targeting women powered the INDIA bloc's performance in Jharkhand

Table 1: Impact of women-centric welfare schemes

	Overall	Party voted for (%)...	
		INDIA	NDA
Aware of Gogo Didi scheme announced by the BJP	57	44	41
Women in your family have registered for the scheme	28	40	44
Aware of Maiya Samman scheme	77	47	36
Women in your family have applied for the scheme	66	47	37
Aware of Manki Munda Scholarship scheme	22	52	40
Women in your family have applied for the scheme	17	52	42

Jyoti Mishra

The Jharkhand Assembly election highlighted the growing political focus on women voters, with all major parties proposing women-centric welfare schemes to reach out to this critical segment. Both the ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM)-led INDIA bloc and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led NDA devised targeted strategies to secure women's support.

The JMM government launched the Maiya Samman scheme, distributing ₹1,000 per month to women in August 2024. The Lokniti-CSDS survey revealed that two-thirds (66%) women members of surveyed households registered for this scheme. Among these households, nearly half (47%) voted for the INDIA coalition, indicating the scheme's electoral impact.

On the other hand, the BJP's Gogo Didi scheme, which promised a higher payment of ₹2,100 per month on the BJP's victory, also garnered attention. The BJP workers at the grassroots level actively encouraged women to register for the scheme, bolstering the party's outreach. Survey findings suggest that households where women registered for the Gogo Didi scheme saw a higher BJP vote share compared with its overall average, reflecting the initiative's effectiveness in securing votes for the NDA. In response to the Gogo Didi Scheme, the JMM-led government hiked the payment for the Maiya Samman scheme to ₹2,500 per month.

Table 2: How women voted?

	Party voted for... (%)	
	INDIA	NDA
Men	43	38
Women	45	38
Adivasi women	60	31
Rural women	48	37
Urban women	37	42

Rest did not respond

The INDIA coalition outperformed among women, securing 45% of their votes compared with 43% among men

Women's role

A nuanced analysis of gender-wise voting patterns further highlights women's role in shaping the electoral outcome. While men and women extended equal support to the BJP (38%), the INDIA coalition outperformed among women, securing 45% of their votes compared with 43% among men. In tune with the overall advantage INDIA had among rural and Adivasi voters, women from these sections too voted more for the INDIA coalition. Among rural women, nearly half (48%) supported the coalition, versus 37% of urban women. Adivasi women also emerged as a stronghold for the INDIA coalition, with three in five (60%) casting their vote for the coalition.

The 2024 Jharkhand election reaffirms the growing importance of women as a critical voter base. Women-centric welfare policies played a significant role in shaping voter preferences, ultimately favouring the INDIA coalition. The findings indicate that the INDIA coalition's focus on rural and tribal women, coupled with welfare schemes such as Maiya Samman, significantly contributed to its victory. By contrast, while the BJP's Gogo Didi scheme gained traction, its appeal was comparatively stronger in urban areas and among non-ST women.

Jyoti Mishra is a research associate at Lokniti-CSDS

BJP banked on Hindutva politics, but it gave them limited rewards

Suhas Palshikar

Hoping to exploit anti-incumbency sentiments against the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha and its allies, the BJP employed various arguments and strategies in its Jharkhand campaign. Among other things, the party sought to put the minorities in the dock and mobilise Hindus.

In its manifesto for the State, the BJP promised a Uniform Civil Code expecting to attract Hindus. Right from the beginning of the campaign, speeches by Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma focused on the issue of "Bangladeshi infiltrators". It was argued that these infiltrators will occupy lands of the native people. The "*Batenge toh katenge*" slogan and reference to "Love Jihad" were also part of the BJP campaign. While these issues obviously were not enough for winning a majority, it is nevertheless important to examine to what extent these issues resonated with the voters.

In the Lokniti-CSDS survey, we found that four in 10 respondents had heard of the BJP promise of bringing the UCC. Among those aware of this issue, the BJP had a clear lead of 11 percentage points compared with voters who were unaware. Moreover, a large proportion of those aware also thought that this was an important issue and voted for the BJP in still larger numbers (55%).

On "Bangladeshi infiltrators", the BJP assured that it would be more effective in handling the issue. This view was endorsed by over 40% of respondents.

Table 1: Two-fifths of voters are aware of BJP's promise to implement a Uniform Civil Code in Jharkhand

Awareness about the BJP's promise to implement a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in Jharkhand	%	Party voted for... (%)	
		INDIA	NDA
Aware	40	43	45
Unaware	60	45	34
Importance of implementing UCC in Jharkhand			
Very important	68	34	55
Somewhat Important	22	47	40
Not at all important	5	75	11

Rest did not respond

Poll duty: People show their ink-marked fingers after casting their votes at a polling station in Khijri, Ranchi. ANI

Voting patterns by class

	Party voted for...(%)	
	INDIA	NDA
Poor	49	38
Lower	46	37
Middle	40	37
Rich	28	53

Rest voted for other parties

INDIA led among rural voters, NDA among urban

	Party voted in Assembly election	
	INDIA	NDA
Rural	47	37
Urban	36	42

Table 2: Majority believe that BJP can better handle the issue of infiltration

Party better for controlling infiltration	%
JMM	24
BJP	42
Both	10
Neither	9

Rest gave other responses or did not respond

The BJP of course received greater support among them (61% of them voted for the BJP). However, both these efforts at mobilising voters on the basis of direct or implicit Hindutva had only limited rewards for the BJP.

Suhas Palshikar taught political science and is chief editor of Studies in Indian Politics

JMM reaffirms its long-standing role as a guardian of Adivasi rights

Devesh Kumar

Many factors contributed to the decent performance of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) and its INDIA (Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance) bloc allies in Jharkhand.

Buoyed by a campaign that championed Jharkhandi identity and Adivasi culture, the JMM reaffirmed its long-standing role as a guardian of Adivasi justice, culture, and land rights.

In stark contrast, the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) campaign leaned on divisive narratives such as "Jamai Jihad" and "Zameen Jihad", alleging Bangladeshi Muslim infiltration, tribal land acquisition, and inter-community marriages. Promising to implement the Citizenship Amendment Act and the Uniform Civil Code, the BJP struggled to connect with the electorate effectively. Over the past five years, its attempts to assimilate Adivasis into the Hindutva fold and its pro-corporate policies – often perceived as exploitative of tribal land and resources – further alienated the community.

The INDIA bloc, led by the JMM, adopted a more careful approach, one of which was pledging to implement land registries based on the 1932 survey to determine domicile status, a move that appears to have resonated with the voters. However, the alliance trod cautiously during the campaign, acknowledging Jharkhand's historical waves of migration from neighbouring States, and the sensitivity of the issue.

Data show that the JMM has a strong appeal among the electorate. The party was seen as a better protector of Adivasi culture and Jharkhandi identity compared with the BJP. Among tribal voters, over half of the surveyed voters believed the JMM was best suited to safeguard these priorities, while only a quarter expressed the same trust in the BJP. While the BJP held a narrow edge on land rights among all the surveyed voters, tribal voters overwhelmingly trusted the JMM on this issue as well (Table 1).

Overall, voters saw the INDIA bloc as better equipped to govern Jharkhand and favoured it over the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance by three percentage points – 36% versus 33%, respectively (Table 2).

This election reaffirms that in Jharkhand, political success hinges on aligning with local identities and tribal concerns. The JMM's strong resonance with voters reflects their yearning for a leadership that defends their culture, land, and future.

Devesh Kumar is a researcher at Lokniti-CSDS

Confident pitch: JMM leader Kalpana Soren addresses a public meeting in Jharia ahead of the Jharkhand Assembly polls. PTI

Table 1: Adivasi voters are more attracted to JMM on issues of culture, identity, and land rights (%)

Party better for	JMM	BJP	Both	Neither
PRESERVING ADIVASI CULTURE				
All voters	38	31	11	9
Adivasi voters	57	27	6	3
PROMOTING JHARKHANDI IDENTITY				
All voters	37	31	13	8
Adivasi voters	56	23	5	4
PRESERVING LAND RIGHTS				
All voters	31	34	11	9
Adivasi voters	43	28	7	4

Rest did not respond

Table 2: INDIA alliance is seen as a better government

Coalition better for governing Jharkhand	%
INDIA	36
NDA	33
Neither	6

Rest did not respond

From Page One

Shiv Sena cites Bihar model to seek CM post

"He [Mr. Shinde] gave Maratha quota without hurting the OBCs. At this juncture, that is the only face which has widespread reach and acceptability, even in tier 2 and tier 3 places. The expectation is that the tenure of the Chief Minister should be split. There can be consequences if it is not respected. The State needs a stable government after all," a source closely associated with Shiv Sena top leadership told *The Hindu*.

Meanwhile, the BJP said there was no question of a compromise. "Look at the current situation. We have a massive majority by ourselves. We have already made enough sacrifices in the past. Even when we were the single largest party, we gave away the Chief Minister position. This time, our party workers want to see a BJP Chief Minister. And Mr. Fadnavis has been that one leader who has consolidated this landslide victory for us," a BJP leader said.

The BJP has not yet called its a meeting of its MLAs.

Mr. Fadnavis visited Delhi for a few hours on Monday, which party sources said was to attend a wedding. Meanwhile, the Shiv Sena claimed it was receiving support from other parties, including Uddahv Thackeray's Sena, even as Congress rebel Manoj Shinde joined the party on Monday.

Houses adjourned amid chaos over Adani row

The Houses will reconvene on November 27. The INDIA parties, which met in the morning to discuss their floor strategy, decided to raise the Adani issue and demand an immediate discussion.

"As the Parliament session begins, the first step the government should take is to have a detailed discussion on the Adani saga which has the potential of tarnishing India's image at the global stage," Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, who chaired the meeting, posted on X.

"This is what the INDIA bloc parties demand today, for the hard-earned investments of crores of retail investors are at stake. We do not need monopolies and cartels to run this country. We need healthy market-driven competition in the private sector, which facilitates equal opportunities, employment and equitable distribution of wealth, catering to the inherent entrepreneurial spirit of India," he said.

In the Lok Sabha, after the obituary references were made, the House was first adjourned till noon and then for the day. Congress general secretary and MP K. C. Venugopal said, "They are very much scared of discussing the Adani issue.

In the Rajya Sabha, proceedings were adjourned for the day following Opposition protests after Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar disallowed notices seeking a discussion on Mr. Adani's indictment.

'Secular, socialist' to stay in Preamble, says SC

Its amending extended to the Preamble. The court confirmed the retrospective amendment to the Preamble, saying the date of adoption would not curtail the power under Article 368.

The court explained that the Constitution was a 'living document', and open to changes according to the needs of the time.

Though the Constituent Assembly was not sure about what 'secularism' should entail in India, the court said, over time, the nation has developed its own interpretation of the term, which has become a basic feature of the Constitution.

The apex court clarified that 'socialism' in the Indian context meant the commitment to function as a welfare state.

"Neither the Constitution nor the Preamble mandates a specific economic policy or structure, whether left or right. Rather, 'socialist' denotes the state's commitment to be a welfare state and its commitment to ensuring equality of opportunity. India has consistently embraced a mixed economy model, where the private sector has flourished, expanded, and grown over the years," the apex court highlighted.

People punish those trying to disrupt Parliament: Modi

During his customary remarks before Winter Session, PM expresses hope for smooth functioning of House and accuses some individuals of halting parliamentary proceedings for political gains

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday came down heavily on the Opposition, accusing "some individuals rejected by the people" of "continuously attempting to control Parliament through disruptive practices".

He was making his customary remarks before the Winter Session of Parliament started on Monday. Mr. Modi's remarks came days after the BJP-led coalition won the Maharashtra Assembly election by a landslide.

"Unfortunately, some individuals rejected by the people are continuously attempting to control Parliament through disruptive tactics for their political gains. Their primary goal of halting parliamentary proceedings rarely succeeds, and the people take note of their actions, often punishing them when the time comes," he said.

Setting the tone: Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing presspersons on the first day of the Winter Session on Monday. PTI

Mr. Modi said that he had been repeatedly urging his colleagues in the Opposition to allow Parliament to function smoothly, and some also agreed to it.

"But those who have been continuously rejected by the public ignore the words of their colleagues, and disrespect their sentiments and that of democracy," he said.

"The most important thing is that the new members of Parliament, who come with new ideas and energy, are usurped by some people. They do not even get the opportunity to speak in Parliament. In the democratic tradition, the job of every member is to prepare the next members, but those who have been rejected by the people 80-90 times, do not allow any discussion in Parliament, do not respect the sentiments of democracy, do not understand the importance of people's expectations," Mr. Modi said.

Expressing hope for the smooth conduct of the Winter Session, he said he hoped "our new friends get opportunities, they have new ideas, new imaginations to take India forward. Today, the world is looking towards India with a lot of expectations".

The Winter Session will conclude on December 20.

The Bills listed for introduction, consideration, and passing include the Mussalman Wakf (Repeal) Bill, the Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, the Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill, the Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Tribes in Assembly Constituencies of the State of Goa Bill, the Bills of Lading Bill, the Carriage of Goods by Sea Bill, the Railways (Amendment) Bill, the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, and the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill.

President to address Parliament to mark 75 years of Constitution

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Droupadi Murmu

President Droupadi Murmu will address a special session of Parliament at the Central Hall of the old Parliament building on Tuesday to mark 75 years of the Constitution. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will attend the celebrations.

The INDIA parties met on Monday morning to discuss their stand on the joint session. After deliberations, they sent a letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, signed by 15 leaders.

In the letter, they noted that Mr. Dhankhar and Mr. Modi too were scheduled to address the function. "We believe that in the best traditions and interests of Parliamentary democracy, the Leaders of Opposition (LoPs) in both Houses should also be given an opportunity to speak on this historic occasion," the letter said. As per sources in the Opposition, it was only after their letter that the schedule for the day was amended to remove Mr. Modi from the list of speakers.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju rejected the Opposition's claim. "The problem with some of the Opposition parties is that without knowing the actual arrangement, they started giving reactions. The Prime Minister is not even speaking tomorrow [Tuesday] at the function. The Speaker, the Vice-President and the President will speak," he said at a press conference to brief on Tuesday's plans.

Rijiju flays reaction

He said the government had made arrangements for the Leaders of the Opposition of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha to sit on the dais. "Without knowing anything, this kind of reaction on a very solemn occasion is condemnable," Mr. Rijiju said.

At the same press conference, Union Culture Secretary Arunish Chawla said a special website had been created to mark the year-long celebrations.

The government would also release a commemorative coin and stamp to mark the occasion.

Aaditya Thackeray elected leader of Shiv Sena(UBT) Legislature Party

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Aaditya Thackeray

The Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) elected Aaditya Thackeray, Worli MLA-elect and son of party chief Uddhav Thackeray, its Legislature Party leader at a meeting here on Monday.

Ambadas Danve, a loyalist of Mr. Uddhav, confirmed the election. Party spokesperson Anand Dubey said it would make a comeback under the leadership of Mr. Aaditya.

The Shiv Sena (UBT) won only 20 seats in the 288-member Assembly, but emerged as the party with the highest number of MLAs in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA).

The Congress won 16 seats and the Nationalist Congress Party (Sharadchandra Pawar) 10. The Mahayuti won a total of 235 seats.

Mr. Aaditya won the Worli Assembly seat by a margin of 8,801 votes against Milind Deora of the Shiv Sena.

House leader

Bhaskar Jadhav, seven-time MLA, will be the group leader of the newly elected MLAs. Sunil Prabhu has been appointed the Chief Whip.

Mr. Jadhav termed the appointment "unexpected" as he was not from Mumbai.

"My selection was unexpected as I live in a rural area. I pushed Mr. Aaditya's name for the position but Uddhav Thackeray pushed my name, so I had to accept it," he said.

He said the Maha Vikas Aghadi would demand the Leader of the Opposition post after the government was formed and would work as a strong Opposition. "This government is not chosen by the public, the entire country is saying something is wrong," he added.

Cabinet approves next phase of Atal Mission

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet, at a meeting here on Monday, approved the continuation of the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), implemented by NITI Aayog, with an enhanced allocation of ₹2,750 crore for the period till March 31, 2028.

The Centre said the next phase of AIM is expected to further enhance India's global competitiveness in the innovation ecosystem. "The continuation of AIM will directly contribute to creating better jobs, innovative products, and high-impact services across sectors," a release said.

It said AIM 2.0 will pilot new initiatives designed to fill gaps in the ecosystem.

MPs seek more time for Waqf Bill report

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Opposition members in the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill met Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Monday, urging him to direct panel chairperson and BJP MP Jagdambika Pal not to rush through the report.

Speaking to pressperson, Aam Aadmi Party MP Sanjay Singh said the report should be prepared only after listening to arguments from all parties.

The Opposition, Mr. Singh said, raised three objections. One, the tour to Karnataka was conducted without keeping the members in the loop. Second, there were still several places that the panel wanted to visit. Third, the discussion on the Ministry's report was still pending and several members of the Waqf Board were yet to come before the JPC.

"The Speaker listened to all these things and assured us that he would extend the time limit for submitting our report to the JPC," he said.

The government has listed the Bill for this session.

Sambhal riot death count rises to 4; MP, son of MLA booked for incitement

Anuj Kumar
GHAZIABAD

An eerie calm prevailed over Sambhal on Monday as the death toll in the unrest that broke out a day before during a court-ordered survey of a Mughal-era mosque reached four. While three people died on Sunday, one more died during treatment in Moradabad late in the night, the police said.

Local people alleged that people were killed in police firing. However, Sambhal Superintendent of Police Krishna Kumar Bishnoi maintained that no lethal arms were used by the police.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Mr. Bishnoi said forensic investigation revealed .315 bore bullets, used in country-made pistols, were found in the bodies of the deceased. He said 21 government officials, including a deputy collector and a circle officer, had been injured.

Magisterial probe

Meanwhile, a magisterial probe has been ordered to investigate the incident and the Rapid Action Force has been deployed in the city that is out of bounds for outsiders till November 30. Internet services remain suspended. Seven FIRs against 15 named and 2,000 unnamed persons in two police stations have been registered so far. Twenty-five people have been arrested, and several others have been detained, which include minors as well, Mr. Bishnoi said.

Strict vigil: State police personnel deployed outside a Masjid on Monday following the violence in Sambhal region. AFP

Ziaur Rehman Barq, Samajwadi Party MP for Sambhal, and Sohail Iqbal, son of Iqbal Mehmood, SP MLA, were booked for inciting violence.

Zafar Ali, head of the mosque committee who was present during the survey, was called for questioning and his mobile phone was seized after a press meet where he blamed the administration for the unrest.

Akhilesh and Rahul blame U.P. govt.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday held the Uttar Pradesh government responsible for the violence in Sambhal.

While Mr. Yadav accused the State government of orchestrating the "riot", Mr. Gandhi said that the administration's "insensitive action" without listening to all parties "vitiated" the situation. Mr. Gandhi appealed to maintain peace and harmony.

Muslim bodies seek judicial investigation into violence

Ziya Us Salam
NEW DELHI

The survey of the Jama Masjid in Sambhal ordered by the court of a civil judge has been questioned by Muslim organisations for its "undue haste" and "lack of adherence to constitutional principles".

They have questioned the court's failure to take the viewpoint of the mosque committee before ordering the survey, and have sought a judicial probe into the incident.

Malik Moatasim Khan, vice-president of Jamaat-e-Islami Hind, told *The Hindu*, "The decision to order a survey without hearing the mosque committee's perspective reflects a serious lapse in judicial fairness. The presence of provocative anti-social elements with the survey team and their offensive actions escalated communal tensions, leading to the unfortunate incident that saw the loss of innocent lives."

Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind president Mahmood Madani said, "We do not support violence from any group, but we view this action by the police as oppressive and discriminatory, resulting in the unjust loss of innocent lives."

Nations gather to iron out treaty to curb plastics

Jacob Koshy
BUSAN

The exhaust from the planes that ferried ministerial delegates to Baku for the climate conference, which concluded on Sunday, has barely settled.

Yet, some of them found themselves on the red-eye to this coastal city to lay the foundations of a new United Nations-mediated treaty to end plastic pollution – and potentially the production of plastic.

On December 1, representatives from 175 countries would hope that this fifth and anticipated final round of discussions of the Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee (INC), following those in Punte Del Este (Uruguay), Paris (France), Nairobi (Kenya) and Ottawa (Canada), will result in an agreement.

Were the Busan negotiations to prove successful, next year will see a convention where Ministers from signatory nations will likely adopt the text and set the ground for periodic meetings – akin to the annual climate Conference of Parties (COP) – to evolve a legally binding treaty to progressively weed out plastic.

"The historic Paris Agreement of 2015, where the world finally agreed to limit emissions to keep temperatures from breaching 2 degrees Celsius, took 21 Conference of the Parties meetings. We cannot wait for 21 years to end plastic," said Inger Andersen, Executive Director, United Nations Environmental Programme.

While there is global consensus that plastic pollution is a problem, and several countries are enthusiastic about ways and means to encourage recycling and prohibiting certain plastics that lead to littering – India for instance has banned single-use plastic since 2022 – many of them prefer to drag their feet on actually limiting plastic production. Many of these countries are either petro-states or those that have significant industries that manufacture plastic polymers.

Negotiations in the week ahead will centre around a 'non-paper', a document put forward by the INC Chair Luis Vayas Valdivieso.

INBRIEF

Protest against Vaishno Devi ropeway project turns violent

Violence broke out in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday during a protest by traders and service providers against the proposed ropeway to the Vaishno Devi shrine. At least one policeman was injured. Hundreds of people held a street protest in Katra town, which is the base camp to climb the Trikuta hill to reach the shrine. The protest followed a 72-hour shutdown that ended late on Sunday. The protesters, mainly shopkeepers and pony and palanquin providers, are against the proposed ropeway, saying that it would affect their livelihood. They demand compensation for those who would be impacted by it.

SC adjourns Rajoana's mercy petition for four weeks

A Special Bench of the Supreme Court on Monday listed death row convict Balwant Singh Rajoana's mercy plea in the Beant Singh assassination case after four weeks following a submission by the Centre that it is waiting for crucial inputs in the case. Rajoana has been in prison for 29 years and on the death row since 2007. For 12 of these years, he was confined in solitary imprisonment. He has argued, through his counsel, senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, that prolonged delay in deciding his mercy plea, causing a debilitating uncertainty about his death penalty, was cruelty and by itself a ground for commutation of his punishment to life sentence.

Cabinet approves railway projects worth ₹7,927 crore

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved three projects of the Ministry of Railways with a total cost of approximately ₹7,927 crore. The projects are Jalgaon-Manmad fourth line, Bhusawal-Khandwa third and fourth lines and Prayagraj (Iradatganj)-Manikpur third line. The proposed multi-tracking projects will ease operations and reduce congestion, providing the much-required infrastructure development on the busiest sections between Mumbai and Prayagraj, the Ministry said. The three projects cover seven districts across three States – Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

₹6,000 crore scheme to help students access journals

The Union Cabinet on Monday cleared the 'One Nation One Subscription' scheme, a new Central-sponsored initiative for providing countrywide access to scholarly research articles and journal publications. The scheme will be administered through a simple, user friendly and fully digital process. Government higher education institutions, and research and development laboratories of the Union government will get the benefit of the scheme, which has an allocation of ₹6,000 crore for three years, from 2025-27. The benefits of the scheme will be coordinated by central agency called Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET).

Bhutan pitches Gelephu as biggest cooperative project

Narendra Modi inaugurates the first International Global Cooperative Conference in Delhi, says the current situation in the world can be a big opportunity for cooperative movement

Suhasini Haidar
Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Pitching the upcoming Gelephu Mindfulness City as the biggest "cooperative project" in Bhutan, its Prime Minister, Tshering Tobgay, said here on Monday that he was grateful for India's support for the 2,500-sq. km "Zero Carbon" city being developed.

Mr. Tobgay was speaking at the first "Global Conference of the International Cooperative Alliance", inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In his comments, Mr. Modi referred to Mr. Tobgay as his "younger brother", while Mr. Tobgay, speaking in Hindi for parts of his speech, referred to Mr. Modi as his "elder brother" and "mentor", and thanked him for his "guidance and support in the development of this unique city".

Nearly 3,000 delegates, including 1,000 representatives from 100 countries, are attending the five-day event being held in Delhi, hosted by Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Bhutan PM Tshering Tobgay at the inauguration of the Global Cooperative Conference. ANI

Mr. Modi said India today had more than eight lakh cooperatives formed in every part of the country, and it was necessary to create big global financial institutions that would finance cooperatives all over the world.

Circular economy

"The current situation in the world can be a big opportunity for the cooperative movement," Mr. Modi told those gathered at Delhi's Bharat Mandapam complex.

"For this, we will have to innovate and strategise our policies. To make cooperatives climate resilient, they should be linked to circular economy. It is also necessary to discuss how we can promote start-ups in cooperatives," he said.

In his speech, Mr. Shah said that the government had opened the way to prosperity for lakhs of villages, crores of women and farmers through its motto of "Prosperity through cooperation". He said that in three years, through two lakh new Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), there would not be a "single village panchayat" in India without a cooperative society. He said many steps had also been taken to make the PACS modern, tech-enabled and economically viable.

Cooperative spirit

"The Gelephu Mindfulness City is designed to be a hub of knowledge, technology, and finance, grounded in the values of mindfulness, sustainability and harmony," the Bhutanese Prime Minister said, adding that it "embodies the cooperative spirit, as every citizen of Bhutan is both a shareholder and a stakeholder, actively participating in this significant initiative".

Since the announcement of plans for Gelephu city last December, situated to the south of Bhutan and bordering Assam, Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck has visited India twice to discuss his plans for the city, and to seek investment and collaborations from the Indian private sector in infrastructure development, bringing projects in areas such as hotels and hospitality, educational institutions, IT and wellness centres.

Five States are yet to publish draft rules on Labour Codes: Centre

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Shobha Karandlage

Four of the 28 States and eight Union Territories are yet to publish the draft rules on the Code on Wages passed by Parliament in 2019, while five States have not released the draft rules on the Industrial Relations Code, the Code on Social Security and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, passed in 2020, the Union Labour Ministry said in Parliament, without naming any.

The Ministry said it was in discussions with the Central trade unions and the States on implementing the Labour Codes.

Maintaining that labour is on the Concurrent List, Union Minister of State for Labour Shobha Karandlage said in the Lok Sabha that after notifying the codes, the Centre had undertaken three tripartite consultations on the draft Central Rules in December 2020 and January 2021.

"As per available information, 32, 31, 31 and 31 States/Union Territories have pre-published the draft rules under the Code on Wages, 2019, the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, the Code on Social Security, 2020 and the Occupational, Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020, respectively. For the remaining States/Union Territories, several meetings were held for facilitating them to frame their respective rules within the ambit of Labour Codes," she said, adding that meetings were held with the States which were yet to publish the draft rules.

Answering another question on the India Employment Report, 2024, of the Institute for Human Development and the International Labour Organisation, she said the report mentioned that in the ILO's Global Report Trends for Youth, 2022, the worldwide youth unemployment rate was 15.6% in 2021.

Gujarat journalist gets anticipatory bail

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A sessions court in Ahmedabad granted anticipatory bail to Mahesh Langa, Gujarat correspondent of *The Hindu*, in a case of alleged cheating.

The case was filed against him on October 29 while he was in jail in another case.

Allowing the bail, the court said that the alleged offence was triable by a Magistrate, the maximum punishment prescribed for it was seven years in prison and "the dispute between the parties are primarily in civil nature, non-payment of money". The applicant was a resident of Ahmedabad city with deep roots in society and there was no possibility of his fleeing from the court of justice.

Mr. Langa's counsel, A.J. Yagnik, submitted that there was no *prima facie* case against him, and he had been falsely implicated. There was no mention of his role in the FIR and he had no criminal antecedents.

The charge of cheating and criminal breach of trust could not run simultaneously as the complainant had to show the malafide intention on the part of the applicant. Such facts were disclosed neither in the FIR nor the affidavit.

The court observed that the alleged period of cheating was from March 1 to October 29, whereas the FIR was registered on October 29. "Considering the fact that the First Informant has not assigned any reason for delay in lodging the complaint, I incline to exercise discretionary power in favour of the present Applicant, by allowing the present anticipatory bail, in the present case," Additional Sessions Judge Hemangkumar Girishkumar Pandya said.

CAQM eases norms for Delhi schools and colleges after SC order, permits 'hybrid' mode

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday directed the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) to immediately take a call on relaxing Graded Response Action Plan stage-IV (GRAP-IV) restrictions to allow resumption of physical classes in schools and colleges in Delhi and other parts of the National Capital Region (NCR).

Pursuant to the court order, the CAQM told the State governments in the NCR to ensure that all classes up to 12 in schools and those in colleges and other educational institutions are conducted in "hybrid" mode – both in "physical" and "online" mode, wherever online mode is feasible.

Earlier, a Bench of Justices A.S. Oka and Augustine George Masih ordered the CAQM to consider and take a decision by Monday evening or latest by Tuesday morning.

The court said various factors had led it to pass the order. These include the fact that many students in primary classes and anganwadis were deprived of midday meals at their schools. Besides, a large number of these small children did not have the facility to attend online classes at home. Many of them did not have air purifiers at home. Hence, staying at home made no difference.

"We are leaving it to the CAQM to decide if norms of GRAP III and IV can be relaxed, and exceptions could be carved, by today or by tomorrow morning," the court said.

The court, noting that the Air Quality Index in Delhi (not the NCR) ranged between 318 and 419 between November 20 and 24, directed the CAQM to place updated data on the next date of hearing on November 29. The updated data would be perused to consider and pass further orders on other GRAP IV measures.

CISCE classes 10, 12 exams to be held from February

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) has announced that the Class 10 Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE) examination will be held from February 18 to March 27, and the Class 12 Indian School Certificate examination from February 13 to April 5.

As many as 2,53,384 candidates (1,35,268 boys and 1,18,116 girls) have registered for the Class 10 exam from 2,803 schools in India, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia and the UAE. A total of 1,00,067 candidates (52,692 boys and 47,375 girls) will participate from 1,461 schools in India, the UAE and Singapore for the Class 12 exam.

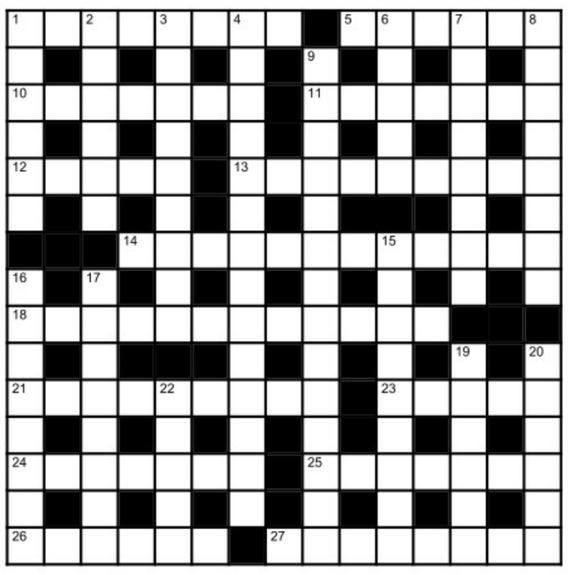
The results will be declared in May.

TH CROSSWORD + 14340

(set by Dr. X)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Agent finally entraps rogue in part of church (8)
5 Passed over money to secure son's freedom (6)
10 Guy left enthralled by excellent chain (7)
11 Old tenor in disc is sonorous (7)
12 A little child tore out right-hand page of book (5)
13 Found entertaining posh models beginning to gambol in German city (9)
14 Misbehave near base drunkenly, yet ultimately manage to avoid dismissal (5,4,3)
18 Creep throttling poor chap in work of sequential art (7,5)
21 Upset about hip fracture in island country (9)
23 Correct illustration showing straight muscles (5)
24 Effect of leucotomy leaving lady extremely confused (7)
25 Woman beats rogue outside club in live video on the internet (7)
26 Smooched English chick on vacation, enthralled by joint in retreat (6)
27 English pop star releasing solo finally? Wow! (2,6)

Down

1 Brother captivated by rhythm and quality of sound (6)
2 Doc in laboratory checking revolutionary alloy (6)
3 Chap is too relaxed for a person with personality disorder (9)
4 One letting off steam in gambling game, having lost resources (8,6)
6 Stop a raid around bar (5)
7 Terribly queasy after eating kebab on vacation - manage barely to survive (6,2)
8 Umpire taking time to ponder (8)
9 Make a special effort to travel by a circuitous route (2,3,2,4,3)
15 Old oriental guy stealing rupees is obnoxious (9)
16 Go sponge dirty kitchen item (3,5)
17 Irresistible maiden acting recklessly after consuming ecstasy (8)
19 Cake with a little cream in European retreat (6)
20 Slightly drunk with half of bottle gone (6)
22 Love a retro bar close to home (5)

SUDOKU

	6							
1		3	2				8	
5				4		7		9
3		4		7		6	9	2
	9						5	
2	5	7		6		3		1
9		2		8				3
	3				9	1		8
							6	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

No.SS6351 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

D	O	W	N	T	I	M	E	
E		A		E		Y		B
F	R	I	E	N	D	S		R
A		T		S		T		E
M	A	O	R	I		E	V	A
E		N		O		R		T
			I	N	H	I	G	H
D		C		A		O		I
I	N	A	L	L	B	U	T	N
S		R				S		G
C	O	N	F	O	U	N	D	S
L		I		B		E		P
O	B	V	I	O	U	S		A
S		A		E		S		C
E	N	L	I	S	T		W	E

P	A	I	N	E	D			
U		O		I				
R	E	D	U	C	E	S		
I		H		P				
A	P	O	R	A	T	E		
		N		N				
P	L	A	C	E	S			
I		E		E				
A	M	E						
B		H		F				
U	V	E	A	L				
R		A		A				
A	N	G	E	L	I	C		
C		E		T		O		
A	R	T	H	I	N			

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

2	1	8	9	4	7	6	5	3
9	6	4	3	5	1	7	2	8
3	5	7	2	6	8	1	9	4
7	2	6	8	9	5	4	3	1
5	8	1	4	7	3	9	6	2
4	9	3	6	1	2	5	8	7
1	3	9	5	2	4	8	7	6
6	7	2	1	8	9	3	4	5
8	4	5	7	3	6	2	1	9

FAITH

Ambal as Sri Chakra

Abirami Bhattar praises Goddess Abirami of Thirukkadaiyur in his *Abirami Andadi*. He shows us many elements of Sakthi worship through his verses, elaborated M.A. Manickavelu in a discourse. He talks of the worship of Ambal as Sri Chakra too. There are nine triangles, five representing Siva and four representing Sakthi. These nine triangles intersect, forming 43 triangles. There is a *bindu* (dot) in the centre. That is Ambal's abode. Ambal's diamond studs are like Sri Chakra. Her studs played an important role in Abirami Bhattar's life. So steeped in worship was Bhattar, that he did not pay attention to what the king was asking him. The king asked him what day of the month it was. Bhattar said it was a full moon day, when actually it was a new moon day. The king, angry because Bhattar had not paid attention to him, ordered that Bhattar would be cast into fire, if the moon did not appear that night. Ambal, in answer to Bhattar's prayer, appeared in the sky, and flung her ear ornament in the sky. Ambal's ear ornament turned into the moon, and the king realised what a great man Abirami Bhattar was.

There are nine *avaranas* or enclosures in the Sri Chakra. Ambal's names in the nine avaranas are as follows: Tripura, Tripuresi, Tripurasundari, Tripuravasini, Tripurasini, Tripuramalini, Tripurasiddha, Tripurambika and Mahatripurasundari. Sri Chakras are installed and sanctified in temples for the Goddess. These Sri Chakras are made of copper, *panchaloha* (an alloy of five metals), silver and gold. Sri Chakras are also the focus in Devi upasana at home. In verse 19 of Abirami Andadi, Bhattar describes Ambal as the One without beginning or end.

INBRIEF

HUL Board okays demerger of ice cream business

Hindustan Unilever Ltd. (HUL) on Monday said its board had approved the demerger of the ice cream business, which owns brands such as Kwality Wall's, Cornetto and Magnum, into an independent listed entity. Existing shareholders will receive shares in the new entity in proportion to their shareholding in HUL. The demerger will be subject to necessary approvals and procedures to be followed in accordance with the applicable laws, the company said. PTI

Lupin recalls 6 lakh bottles of hypertension drug in U.S.

Drug firm Lupin is recalling over six lakh bottles of a medication indicated for high blood pressure in the U.S. due to deviation from current good manufacturing practices, according to the U.S. health regulator. The affected lot is manufactured at Lupin's Goa-based manufacturing facility, it stated. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration stated that Dr Reddy's Laboratories is also recalling a product in the U.S. due to a manufacturing issue. PTI

Zomato shares climb nearly 4% on BSE Sensex inclusion

Shares of online food delivery firm Zomato climbed nearly 4% on Monday following news that it will become a part of the BSE benchmark Sensex from December 23. The stock jumped 3.58% to settle at ₹273.60 on the BSE. During the day, it soared 7.62% to ₹284.30. Zomato will become a part of the Sensex, replacing JSW Steel on December 23. Shares of JSW Steel declined 2.4% to ₹953.35, becoming the biggest laggard among the Sensex firms. PTI

Inflation outlook benign: FinMin

Ministry's October review expresses cautious optimism for the economy as demand is growing steadily and brief moderation in Q2 economic activity has been overcome; some food prices seen moderating through early November

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Amid a mixed outlook for the world economy, India quietly holds its ground and economic activity has firmed up in October after a brief moderation over the monsoon months, and food inflation which spiked consumer prices at a 14-month high pace of 6.2% last month is expected to cool off in coming months, the Finance Ministry said on Monday.

"Demand continues to grow steadily as indicated by improving FMCG sales volumes in Q2 FY25 in both urban and rural areas. Rural demand has been particularly striking as reflected in the robust growth of two-wheeler sales and record-high tractor sales in October," the ministry's economic affairs department said in its monthly review of the economy for October.

Green shoots: Bright farm output prospects make inflation outlook benign, despite existing pressures in select food items. PTI

In its last monthly economic review, the ministry had acknowledged emerging concerns of softening consumer sentiments and faltering demand, particularly in urban India, as well as a moderation in industrial momentum in recent months.

Asserting that India's economic outlook for the coming months is "cautiously optimistic, with agriculture likely to benefit from favourable monsoon conditions, increased minimum support prices and adequate supply of inputs", the latest review said early November trends suggest a moderation in key food prices. "Bright agricultural production prospects make the inflation outlook benign, despite existing price pressures in select food items," it noted, adding that geopolitical factors may continue to impact domestic inflation and supply chains.

Although the labour market is showing signs of growth, the review conceded that Reserve Bank of India surveys paint a more cautious picture of urban consumers' perceptions of employment conditions and manufacturers' hiring sentiments.

TotalEnergies pauses Adani investments

Reuters
PARIS

French oil major TotalEnergies SE was not informed of a U.S. investigation into possible bribery and corruption at Adani Green Energy Limited, it said on Monday, adding it will stop financial contributions to investments with Adani Group companies following last week's U.S. federal indictment.

"Until such time when the accusations against the Adani group individuals and their consequences have been clarified, TotalEnergies will not make any new financial contribution as part of its investments in the Adani group of companies," the company said in a statement.

"TotalEnergies was not made aware of the existence of an investigation into the alleged corruption scheme," the company added.

The French firm purchased a 19.75% stake in Adani Green Energy in January 2021.

Upbeat Monday on Dalal St. but Adani Green nears 52-week low

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India's stock markets gained ground for the second straight session on Monday, with the Nifty rising 1.3% to 24,221.90 points and the Sensex bouncing 1.25% to cross 80,100 points. However, it was another rough day for the Adani group's energy-focused firms, led by Adani Green Energy named in an U.S. Court indictment unsealed last Thursday.

The Adani Green Energy stock plunged 8.05% on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) to ₹967.65, taking it down by almost a third of its valuation five days earlier and near its 52-week low of ₹920.20. The firm's shares fell a steeper 9.2% on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) to ₹955 after slipping to a low of ₹933 during intra-day trading.

That one of the group's largest foreign investors,

'Singapore banks' exposure to Adani small'

The Singapore banking sector's overall exposure to the Adani Group is small, the Monetary Authority of Singapore said on Monday. REUTERS

French energy giant TotalEnergies SE decided to hold off on fresh investments in its companies till founder Gautam Adani is cleared of bribery charges flagged in a New York court, infected sentiment around other group stocks too. On the BSE, the Adani Energy Solutions stock declined 3.78%, while Adani Power fell 3.02% and Adani Total Gas slipped 1.43%.

However, the group flagship Adani Enterprises rose 1.26%, Adani Ports climbed 2.55% and Adani Wilmar was up 1.81%. Its cement arms also ticked up, with Ambuja Cements rising 0.88% and ACC gaining 2.54% on the BSE.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	80,110	1.25
US Dollar	84.29	0.14
Gold	79,400	-1.24
Brent oil	73.09	—

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2257.50	29.50
Adani Ports	1166.80	30.05
Apollo Hosp	7075.00	139.90
Asian Paints	2459.70	-12.50
Axis Bank	1155.90	13.50
Bajaj Auto	9420.95	-60.70
Bajaj Finserv	1604.90	4.05
Bajaj Finance	6685.40	1.45
Bharat Elec	292.35	11.50
Bharti Airtel	1578.75	9.45
BPCL	296.55	10.70
Britannia Ind	4903.95	55.60
Cipla	1503.30	16.80
Coal India	417.45	3.40
Dr Reddys Lab	1209.30	-5.15
Eicher Motors	5002.35	16.15
Grasim Ind	2629.80	31.15
HCL Tech	1891.70	-6.70
HDFC Bank	1785.60	40.00
HDFC Life	684.80	-3.40
Hero MotoCorp	4858.30	64.20
Hindalco	659.85	7.75
Hind Unilever	2471.45	26.20
ICICI Bank	1300.95	22.90
IndusInd Bank	1003.50	5.30
Infosys	1889.70	-12.55
ITC	476.80	2.15
JSW Steel	953.30	-24.05
Kotak Bank	1790.75	29.30
L&T	3753.00	149.50
M&M	3045.60	32.65
Maruti Suzuki	11025.15	-38.45
NestleIndia	2256.95	9.65
NTPC	368.40	2.95
ONGC	257.90	12.30
PowerGrid Corp	342.75	5.80
Reliance Ind	1287.00	21.60
SBI Life	1495.20	10.05
State Bank	844.45	28.40
Shriram Finance Ltd.	2947.80	97.75
Sun Pharma	1798.90	3.60
TataConsumerProduct	955.70	10.50
Tata Motors	796.60	5.60
Tata Steel	143.67	0.89
TCS	4315.10	70.50
Tech Mahindra	1732.60	-14.85
Titan	3309.10	0.40
Trent Ltd.	6774.95	122.15
UltraTech Cement	11457.45	82.15
Wipro	582.45	10.80

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 25

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	84.09	84.41
Euro	88.11	88.45
British Pound	105.65	106.05
Japanese Yen (100)	54.44	54.65
Chinese Yuan	11.61	11.65
Swiss Franc	94.46	94.82
Singapore Dollar	62.41	62.65
Canadian Dollar	60.19	60.42
Malaysian Ringitt	18.87	18.97

Source:Indian Bank

Vedanta to proceed with dollar bond sale

Reuters
MUMBAI

Vedanta Resources, which postponed a planned sale of dollar bonds last week after the Adani group's top officials were indicted by U.S. prosecutors, will now launch the issue on Monday, two sources said.

The issue, which could raise as much as $500 million, is the first since the Adani crisis and will test global appetite for Indian high yield credit following the allegations against Adani. Adani Group, led by billionaire Gautam Adani, has said the allegations made by the U.S. authorities are "baseless". "Since the Adani crisis has not blown out of proportion after the initial fears, the company deemed fit to go ahead with the issue," a banker with knowledge of the Vedanta sale told Reuters.

A second source confirmed the sale would be going ahead. In September, Vedanta Resources raised $900 million in its first dollar bond issue in more than two years at a coupon of 10.875%.

Can grow without external debt: Adani

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Billionaire Gautam Adani's conglomerate on Monday showcased its cash reserves and profits that are enough to service debt obligations as well as meet growth plans as it reassured investors about business as usual despite a U.S. bribery indictment against the founder.

The ports-to-energy conglomerate, whose chairman Adani and two other executives have been indicted in a U.S. court for allegedly bribing Indian officials to secure solar power contracts, in a presentation to investors highlighted cash balances of ₹55,024 crore exceeding long-term debt repayments for the next 28 months.

Equity now accounts for almost two-thirds of its total asset creation, a stark contrast to five years ago. In the past six months, the group invested close to ₹75,227 crore against a total debt increase of only ₹16,882 crore.

A note was also shared with the investors, along with the presentation.

Outlining the group's liquidity position, the note said, "Adani portfolio companies have sufficient liquidity to cover all debt servicing requirements for at least 12 months.

As of September 30, 2024, Adani portfolio companies had cash of ₹53,024 crore, which was close to 21% of its total gross debt outstanding." This amount, it said, was sufficient to cover the next 28 months of debt servicing requirement.

Fund flows from operations (FFO) or cash profits stood at ₹58,908 crore for the past 12 months and grew at over 30% during the last five years.

On this basis, even after assuming no growth, the group will be able to invest ₹5.9 lakh crore only from its internal cash accruals over the next 10 years, leaving very little dependency on external debt.

Indian regulators unlikely to act: GQG

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Florida-headquartered investment firm GQG Partners, that bought major stakes in seven Adani firms after the Hindenburg Research allegations against the group last year, has told clients it does not see any material impact on the group's businesses owing to the U.S Court indictment on bribery and securities fraud charges against group promoter Gautam Adani and others.

In a November 21 memo, the firm said it believed the "Indian government will maintain its support for Gautam Adani as he is the most important infrastructure developed in the country by order of magnitude". "We think it is unlikely that Indian regulators will take action in this matter given the thorough review of Adani Group following the Hindenburg allegations," it added.

As of Nov. 21, GQG's total exposure to the group was $8.1 billion, down from $9.7 billion or 6.1% of its assets on November 19.

HDFC Life probing 'data breach'

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

HDFC Life Insurance Company on Monday reported a customer data theft and said it has launched an investigation to assess the potential impact.

A detailed investigation is underway in consultation with information security experts after it received "communication from an unknown source, who has shared certain data fields of our customers with us, with mala fide intent," the private insurer said in a filing.

The incident comes close on the heels of insurance regulator IRDAI taking cognisance last month of data leaks from two insurers. However, it did not name them.

One of them was Star Health and Allied Insurance Company, which intimated stock exchanges on August 14 about e-mails received from an unidentified person.

Central University of Himachal Pradesh
(Established under Central Universities Act, 2009)

Employment Notice No. 002/2024 Dated: 22.11.2024

Employment Notice No. 002/2024 Dated 22.11.2024 for NON-TEACHING POSITIONS

Central University of Himachal Pradesh invites online applications from eligible Indian citizens for various Non-Teaching positions to be filled on Direct Recruitment/Deputation basis only. The Candidates may apply online from 22.11.2024. **Last Date 22.12.2024.** For further details please visit University Website i.e., **www.cuhimachal.ac.in**

REGISTRAR

Government of Kerala
Published Tenders from 21-11-2024 to 24-11-2024

SC Directorate

Tender ID: 2024_DSCD_708056_1 * Director,Scheduled Castes Development Department * Purchase of Tool and Equipment in Electrician Trade in vario * Closing Date: 18-Dec-2024 * PAC: Rs13576183

Tender ID: 2024_DSCD_708126_1 * Director,Scheduled Castes Development Department * Purchase of Tool and Equipment in MMV and DCM Trade in vario * Closing Date: 18-Dec-2024 * PAC: Rs21834766

Tender ID: 2024_DSCD_708165_1 * Director,Scheduled Castes Development Department * Purchase of Furniture in various ITIs under SCDD * Closing Date: 20-Dec-2024 * PAC: Rs18070855

Stationery Department

Tender ID: 2024_STY_708116_1 * Controller of Stationery * Supply of Maplitho Paper 75gsm 86cm Reel * Closing Date: 11-Dec-2024 * PAC: Rs10000000

Visit **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in** for more details.

Ro.No:21-24/Nov/2024/PRD/(N)11

National Games Secretariat
Department of Sports (Govt. of Uttarakhand)
Maharana Pratap Sports College, Thano Road, Raipur, Dehradun-248008

Date- 25/11/2024 REP References- 28/2024, 30/2024, 33/2024

Notice Inviting Tender

The National Games Secretariat Department of Sports, Uttarakhand on behalf of the Governor of Uttarakhand invites bids from reputed and experienced firms/agencies/companies for:

Sr. No	REP	Bid Security	Reference No.
1.	Request for Proposal for Retender for Procurement (Supply and Installation) of Boxing Equipment for 38th National Games, Uttarakhand.	INR 3,70,000	28/2024
2.	Request for Proposal for Retender for Procurement (Supply and Installation) of Archery Equipment for 38th National Games, Uttarakhand.	INR 80,000	30/2024
3.	Request for Proposal for Retender for Procurement (Supply and Installation) of Fencing Equipment for 38th National Games, Uttarakhand.	INR 13,00,000	33/2024

Schedule of bidding process:

Sr. No	Activity Description	Date
1.	Issue of RFP	25.11.2024
2.	Starting date for submission of Bids	27.11.2024 @ 15:00Hrs
3.	Last date of submission of queries	26.11.2024 @ 15:00Hrs
4.	Last Date for Submission of Bids	02.12.2024 @ 15:00Hrs
5.	The date for Opening of Technical Bids	02.12.2024 @ 17:00Hrs
6.	The date for Opening of Financial Bids	04.12.2024 (tentative)

All the information/Corrigendum/ addendum related to the project shall be published on the website https://uktenders.gov.in and the authority shall have the right to reject the bid partially or fully without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

CEO
National Games Secretariat
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APPOINTMENT

Advertisement No. 119/2024
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
Director (Technical)
In
Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)
Last date of submission of application by the applicant is by 15.00 hours on
17/12/2024
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal officers to PESB is by 15.00 hours on
26/12/2024
For details login to website
https://pesb.gov.in

Department of Information Technology, Electronics and Communications
Government of Goa
'IT Hub', 2nd Floor, Altinho, Panaji Goa-403001

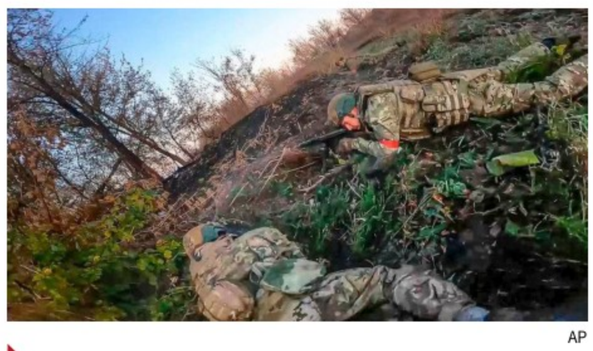
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Electronics mode only)

Department of IT, Electronics and Communications (DITE&C), Panjim-Goa invites tenders in online mode only from eligible bidders for the tender "Technical Empanelment of Vendors for Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Networking Infrastructure (LAN, WAN & UPS Connectivity) to Government Departments/ Organizations/Institutions/Corporations/Autonomous Bodies in the State of Goa". All the interested bidders are requested to register and participate on e-tendering portal (**https://eprocure.goa.gov.in**).

DI/ADVT/1418/2024

MOSCOW

Russia captures Briton fighting for Ukraine as its troops advance



AP

Russia's military captured a British national fighting with Ukrainian troops who have occupied part of Russia's Kursk region, according to reports on Monday, as Moscow began daylight drone attacks on civilian areas of Ukraine and its ground forces accelerated gains along parts of the front line. AP

BUCHAREST

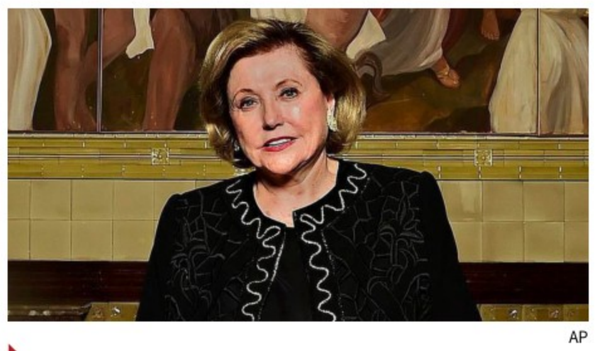
Far-right populist enters Romania's presidential election run-off

AP

Romania's political landscape is reeling after a little-known, far-right populist secured the first round in the presidential election, electoral data showed on Monday. Calin Georgescu, who ran independently, will face off against reformist Elena Lasconi in a runoff in two weeks. AP

NEW YORK

A Woman of Substance author Barbara Taylor Bradford dies at 91



AP

Barbara Taylor Bradford, a British journalist who became a publishing sensation in her 40s with the saga *A Woman of Substance* and wrote more than a dozen other novels that sold tens of millions of copies, has died. She was 91. Bradford died on Sunday at her home in New York City, a spokesperson said on Monday. AP

TOKYO

'U.S. drawing up contingency plans for Taiwan emergency situation'

AFP

The United States is drawing up contingency plans for military deployments in Japan and the Philippines in case of an emergency over Taiwan, Japan's Kyodo news agency reported. They will be incorporated in a first joint operation plan to be formulated in December, the news agency reported late on Sunday. AFP

Imran Khan's supporters head to Islamabad, demand his release

The jailed former Prime Minister has issued a 'final call' for nationwide protests, denouncing 'the stolen mandate', the 'unjust arrests' of people and the passage of the 26th Amendment, which he said has strengthened a 'dictatorial regime'

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Call for action: Supporters of jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan's PTI party march towards Islamabad on Monday. AFP

Thousands of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) workers, led by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur, were moving towards Islamabad on Monday as the top party leaders met ex-Premier Imran Khan in jail and dismissed any rumours about the protest march being called off.

The 72-year-old former Premier issued a "final call" on November 13 for nationwide protests on November 24, denouncing what he termed the stolen mandate, the unjust arrests of people and the passage of the 26th amendment, which he said has strengthened a "dictatorial regime".

Mr. Khan's supporters said they will continue the protests until he is released. The protesters resumed march towards Islamabad on Monday after an overnight stop on the way amid stiff resistance by the authorities to foil their attempt to enter the national capital and stage a sit-in at the D-Chowk, located close to several important government buildings: the Presidency, the PM Office, Parliament, and the Supreme Court.

Party chairman Gohar Khan, accompanied by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Information Adviser Barrister Saif and senior leader Ali Mohammad Khan, held a 90-minute meeting with Mr. Khan on Monday in Rawalpindi's high-security Adiala Jail, where the former Premier is lodged since last year. Mr. Gohar said that Mr. Khan's call for protest is final and dismissed any rumours about it being called off.

Meanwhile, a large convoy of PTI supporters moved steadily into Punjab territory but were met with police resistance.

In a brief address to the crowd before departing Swabi, KP Chief Minister Gandapur urged party members to move forward, declaring, "We must advance and not turn back until Khan is released."

Later, he rallied supporters, telling them to "prepare, as we will need to confront further resistance ahead." Mr. Khan's wife Bushra Bibi, who is a part of the convoy being led by Gandapur, demanded her husband's release.

Three Uzbeks held in UAE over Israeli rabbi's murder

Associated Press
DUBAI

The United Arab Emirates said on Monday that the police arrested three Uzbek nationals for the killing of an Israeli-Moldovan rabbi.

The statement from the Interior Ministry offered no motive for the slaying of Zvi Kogan, 28, an ultra-Orthodox rabbi who went missing on Thursday. He ran a kosher grocery store in the futuristic city of Dubai, where Israelis have flocked for commerce and tourism since the two countries forged diplomatic ties in the 2020 Abraham Accords.

The agreement has held through more than a year of soaring regional tensions unleashed by Hamas's October 7, 2023 attack into southern Israel.

Rabbi Zvi Kogan

But Israel's devastating retaliatory offensive in Gaza and its invasion of Lebanon, after months of fighting with the Hezbollah militant group, have stoked anger among Emiratis, Arab nationals and others living in the UAE.

The Interior Ministry statement identified the three men as Olimpi Tohirovic, 28, Mahmoud John Abdul Rahim 28, and Azizi Kamilovic, 33. The state-run WAM news agency carried images of the three men, their faces blurred. It did not say if charges had been filed against the men.

It wasn't immediately clear if the three men had lawyers in the UAE, an autocratically ruled nation of seven sheikhdoms on the Arabian Peninsula. The Uzbek Consulate in Dubai did not immediately respond to a request for comment regarding the arrests.

Israeli media reports, citing unnamed security officials, had alleged Uzbeks were involved in Kogan's killing. Uzbeks previously have been hired in Iranian plots targeting dissidents and others.

In a statement Sunday, U.S. National Security Council spokesperson Sean Savett called Kogan's killing "a horrific crime against all those who stand for peace, tolerance, and coexistence."

'U.K. sees generational mission in the Indo-Pacific'

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

The security and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic are inseparable, says U.K. Minister Catherine West. ANI

More than four months after the U.K.'s Labour party came to power, the government has declared that the U.K.'s engagement in the Indo-Pacific is long term. The U.K.'s Indo-Pacific Minister, Catherine West, outlined the position of the government at the second Indo-Pacific Conference organised by the High Commissions of India, Australia, and Singapore in London, in collaboration with the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

In 2021, the Boris Johnson-led Conservative government had said the U.K. would undertake a "tilt" towards the Indo-Pacific in its defence, foreign, and security policy.

"For us, this is a generational mission, a long-term strategic posture, not just a short-term shift to the sake of sound bites," Ms. West said at the Indian High Commission in London on Monday morning. The Keir Starmer government is currently undertaking the Strategic Defence Review, led Defence Secretary John Healey. The process is expected to be completed next year.

"We want a free and open Indo-Pacific underpinned by the rules-based international system, because rules matter," Ms. West said. She also highlighted the "centrality" of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) – a concept that is supported by many countries and groups with interests in the region such as India, the U.S., the other two Quad countries (i.e., Australia and Japan) and the EU.

"Despite the distance, the security and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic are inseparable," the Minister said, citing the example of North Korea helping Russia in its war with Ukraine.

The Labour government confirmed in July that the Royal Navy's Carrier Strike Group would be deployed in the Indo-Pacific where it would undertake exercises and visit Japan in 2025. The deployment was announced earlier this year by the Conservative government. The Royal Navy's Littoral Response Group was deployed to the region earlier this year with two ships docking in Chennai in April.

India was uniquely placed to help shift the dialogue and make progress on climate change and sustainable development, said Ms. West, who has just concluded a two-day visit to India last week.

In India, she had discussed climate, technology, education, and health, she said, noting that the University of Southampton was opening a campus in New Delhi.

Ms. West reiterated Foreign Secretary David Lammy's position that a UK-India trade deal was the "floor, and not a ceiling" of the U.K.'s ambitions for the UK-India relationship.

"There is significant potential for much closer defence collaboration over the coming years," she said, emphasising that the U.K. was co-leading, with India, the maritime security pillar of India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative.

The 'three Cs'

On the U.K.'s approach to China, Ms. West said it would be mixture of 'compete, cooperate and challenge' [i.e., the "three C's approach"]. Where applicable, the U.K. would seek cooperation with China, as a fellow permanent member of the UN Security Council (such as in growing trade and on climate action) and challenge Beijing when it felt its security and national interests were being undermined.

Countries were increasingly challenged by the fact that notions of security and prosperity were now global in nature, India's High Commissioner to the U.K., Vikram Doraiswami, said. "We have to talk these challenges in the context of connectedness between the eurotartic region and the Indo-Pacific region," he said. The High Commissioner said it was natural for New Delhi to be looking to deepen partnerships in the Euro-Atlantic.

Protests break out in Dhaka after ISKCON leader's arrest

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Protests broke out in the Bangladesh capital, Dhaka, hours after the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) on Monday announced that Chinmoy Krishna Das, leader of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) in Bangladesh, had been arrested. The protesters had come to the Shahbag neighbourhood of the city, demanding release of Mr. Das, the leader of ISKCON in Bangladesh.

Mr. Das leads the Pundarik Dham in Chittagong, an important Vaishnavite monastery in Bangladesh, and is known to have a widespread following in the country. Pundarik Dham is also an important part of ISKCON in Bangladesh.

Mr. Das has been vocal about the rights of religious minorities, and has come into the spotlight for his advocacy since the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government on August 5. Ever since he has held multiple rounds of dialogues with various political parties, including the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), to ensure communal harmony in the country.

Dhaka Police said that Mr. Das had been arrested on the basis of a complaint filed against him, alleging that he and a few others had insulted the national flag of Bangladesh.

It was alleged by Firoz Khan, a former BNP leader from Chittagong, that Mr. Das and others had shown disrespect to the national flag of Bangladesh during a rally by the Hindu community in Chittagong on October 25.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our Client/s represents that they are the Agreement Holder of the land bearing Old Sy. No. 3, New Survey No. 199, measuring to an extent of 40 Acres, Ullal Village, Yeshawanthapur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bengaluru District and bounded on
East by : 20 feet Road and Venkataramanappa Land;
West by : Kodigehalli boundary;
North by : Narasappa and Muddaraish land;
South by : K. N. Srinivas Gupta land;
Vide Agreement of Sale entered into by them with the Owner/s Mr.K.S.SURENDRA BABU, S/o. late Sri.K.N.Srinivasa Gupta and Others.
Persons having any right over the said Property may lodge their claims with documentary evidence within 14 days from the date of this publication to the undersigned.

Shanti .L, . (Ashwini)
Advocate (994500 3212)
K.V.Narendra & Associates,
No.4, III Floor,
Saroj Bank Square, Gear School-Doddakanahalli Road,
Next to Prestige Trinity Centre
Boganahalli, Bangalore-560 103

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that our client Smt. Navanita Lahri, residing at No. B1102, Tower-4, Godrej Woodsman Estate, Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru - 560 024, has lost the Original Documents namely Sale Deed dated 23.02.2007 registered as document No. RMN-1-08690-2006-07 contained in Book – I, C.D No.RMND52, in the office of the Sub-Registrar Ramanagara and Sale deed dated 24.01.2014 registered as document No. RMN-1-09188-2013-14 contained in Book – I, C.D No.RMND213, in the office of the Sub-Registrar Ramanagara in respect of the residential site bearing No. P-76-B-28, Eagleton-the Golf village and bearing katha No. 476/P-76-B-28/422 situated at Shyanamangala Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagaram taluk Bengaluru Rural District and a lost article report bearing No. 1352067/2024 has been placed before the Ramanagara Police in that regard on 25.11.2024. If any person/s find/s the lost document he/she/ they is/are requested to hand over the documents to the undersigned.

V. Sanjay Krishna
Partner
TRIALBASE®
ADVOCATES
No.1/1, Ground Floor, West Wing,
Unity Buildings Annexe, P. Kalinga Rao Road
(Mission Road) Bengaluru – 560 027
info@trialbase.in

KARNATAKA URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT & FINANCE CORPORATION LTD.,
Nagarabhivruddi Bhavan, #22, 17th 'F' Cross, Old Madras Road, Indiranagar, 2nd Stage, Near BMTC Bus Depot, Bengaluru-560038.
Ph No.: 080-25196100/25196124 | e-mail: info@kuidfc.com
No. KUIDFC/UWM/37/NTFN/2024-25 Dated:22.11.2024

QUOTATION INVITATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement portal only)

KUIDFC Invites quotations for the below mentioned items which are required for various Jalashuddhi Mission(Used Water Management) projects for the technology of NEBR. Interested bidders may quote their prices on KPP portal of GoK (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)
Pre-bid meeting Date & Time: **27.11.2024 at 11.30 AM**. Last Date & Time for Quotation submission: **30.11.2024 upto 5.30 PM**. Date & Time of Opening of Quotation **02.12.2024 at 10.30AM.**
Interested bidders may view, download & upload the Quotation only through KPP portal. Any further Information will be through KPP portal and KUIDFC official website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Project Monitoring Unit, UWM-KUIDFC,
Belagavi Dvn, Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/JA/3412/2024-25

KMF Karnataka Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
Kmf Complex, Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bangalore - 560 029
Tel: 080-25536625 / 25536789 fax: 080-25536105
IFT No: KMF/ENGG/CFPR-Pellet Mill & Boiler works/1921/2024-25 Date: 25-11-2024

SHORT TERM RETENDER NOTIFICATION (2nd Call)
[Two Cover System] [Through KPP Portal Only]

Karnataka Milk Federation Ltd; Bangalore invites tender from the eligible manufacturers/authorised dealer through KPP Portal for the works mentioned in the table below. The interested manufacturers/contractors who have handled similar kind of works may participate in the tender as indicated below, by logging on to website https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and also contact Helpdesk E-mail; hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com and helpline no. 080-25501227/ 25501216.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Qty.	EMD in Rs.	Period of Completion
1	Design, Supply, Installation, Erection, Testing and commissioning of Pellet Mill and Boiler Chimney related works with associated works to Cattle Feed Plant, Rajanukunte.	1 Job	1,52,000/-	8 Months

1. Tender schedules may be downloaded from dated: 26-11-2024 to 03-12-2024 up to 4.00 pm.
2. Last date for Tender submission on date: 03-12-2024 up to 4.00 pm
3. Tender [Part 1] to be opened on date: 04-12-2024 at 4:30 pm.

For Karnataka Co-Opp. Milk Federation Ltd.,
Sd/- Director [Engineering-2]

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, (QA&QC-East)
Room No-101, Annex-3 Building, BBMP N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002
No: EE(QA&QC)/East/TEND/43/24-25(Call-4) Date:25.11.2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)
(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only) (Call-4)

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Quality Assurance/Quality Control division invites Request for Proposal from interested persons/firms those who have done similar type of work for Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality control (PMC) for the below works through KPP portal by the Executive Engineer QA/QC, East BBMP, Bengaluru.

Sl No.	Name of the work
1.	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality control for Construction of Fire Escape Staircase with firefighting works for Annex-3 Building at BBMP Head Office, Bengaluru. **Project Cost: ₹.700.00 Lakhs, EMD Amount: ₹.14,245/-**

Calendar of Events : (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP portal GOK from **27.11.2024.** (2) Pre-Bid Meeting on **02.12.2024** at **11:30** am. (3) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders is **07.12.2024** upto **4:00** pm. (4) Opening of Technical Bid is **09.12.2024** at **4:30** pm.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer (QA&QC) East

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NO. 1 AGAIN

India reclaims WTC top spot after thumping win at Optus Stadium

AFP

India reclaimed the top spot in the World Test Championship points table following its 295-run win over Australia in Perth at the Optus Stadium on Monday. The huge victory has boosted India which now has 61.11 percentage points apart from the No. 1 ranking. Australia slipped to second with 57.69 percentage points.

SOLID AT THE TOP

It was an ideal Test innings: Bumrah on Rahul's knock

ANI

K.L. Rahul offered solidity atop the batting tree and that pleased Jasprit Bumrah. "He batted really well in the first innings. In the second innings, he was quite assured. He had a lot of time, looked confident and played his shots. It was an ideal Test innings and I am happy," the India captain said after the first Test on Monday.

DADDY TALES

A special win and I have a lot of stories to tell my son: Bumrah

ANI

For a few moments, Jasprit Bumrah ceased to be an intense competitor and transformed into a proud father who would one day tell some gleeful tales about India's historic Perth triumph to his son when grows up. "This is a special win, first win as a captain.. My son is also here, so I'll cherish it with my son," Bumrah said on Monday.

CAPTAIN'S MEN

Bumrah praises Harshit, Nitish; says they were more than ready

PTI

Jasprit Bumrah praised India's two Test debutants Harshit Rana and Nitish Kumar. "The biggest positive sign was that they were not nervous at all. It didn't feel like they were playing for the first time in Australia or it was their first match. They were looking for responsibility and they were more than ready," he said in Perth.

India throws down the gauntlet with a resounding victory

The visitors win by 295 runs to go 1-0 up in the series; skipper Bumrah finishes with a match-haul of eight wickets; the 82-run partnership between Head and Marsh the only bright spot as the Australia sinks to a morale-shattering defeat

INDIA IN AUS

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
PERTH

A blue patch shimmered in the stands as Indian fans congregated to celebrate a great triumph. The Tricolour fluttered, drums echoed, a conch lent a deep acoustic vibe and on the turf Jasprit Bumrah's men were tightening their hold on the first Test at the Optus Stadium here on Monday.

History's notes often whisper about Melbourne, 1981; Adelaide, 2003; Perth, 2008; and Brisbane, 2021. These were significant contests in which India stunned the host and charted a fresh path. To this list, add Perth, 2024, as India defeated Australia by 295 runs to go 1-0 up in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy series.

In its second innings, Australia was bowled out for 238. This emphatic victory, registered on the fourth day, was the welcome balm that India needed after the 0-3 loss to New Zealand at home.

Resuming at the overnight score of 12 for three, Australia heaved a sigh of relief as Bumrah's appeal for an lbw verdict was immediately negated after a no-ball was declared. A twitchy Steve Smith survived but there was no such luck for Usman Khawaja, who miscued a pull off Mohammed Siraj and found the ball lobbing up and descending into Rishabh Pant's gloves.

Southpaw Travis Head then joined forces with Smith and a semblance of a partnership took shape. Head survived an lbw appeal and subsequent review from Siraj, and immediately celebrated with drives and punches as Bumrah and Harshit Rana felt the heat of the batter's aggression.

Head tucked into Siraj too, who in turn accounted for Smith with a peach of a delivery that homed in, took the edge and left Pant ecstatic behind the wickets. Head and Mitchell Marsh held firm till lunch as Australia moved to 104 for five and made India wait.

Meanwhile, Rohit Sharma had a stint at the nets, gearing up for future battles at Adelaide and other venues. And after the break, with the sun beating down, Marsh pulled Harshit for a six and lofted Washington Sundar into the stands.

Head, meanwhile kept clattering his runs, and it demanded Bumrah's brilliance to cause a breach. The speedster cramped Head (89) for space and as the constricted batter tried to defend, the edge was taken. The sixth-wicket 82-run partnership, one of Australia's few pockets of resistance, had concluded. And it got worse when Nitish Kumar castled Marsh as the latter chopped a delivery onto his stumps.

At 182 for seven, the host continued to delay the inevitable as the left-handed combine of Alex Carey and Mitchell Starc hung around with the former being adept at pulling and finding his runs behind square. However, just at the stroke of tea, Starc fell as Dhruv Jurel pulled off an outstanding reflex catch at forward short-leg with Washington being the relieved bowler.

Australia 227 for eight, in the spasms of a death-rattle, and the last dance extended into the final session when Washington slipped one past Nathan Lyon's defensive willow. And once Harshit castled Carey, Bumrah's men lost themselves in warm hugs.

Heading the super show: Bumrah, who produced a match-swinging performance, exults after dismissing Australia's top-scorer Head. AFP

SCOREBOARD

INDIA — 1ST INNINGS
150 in 49.4 overs
AUSTRALIA — 1ST INNINGS
104 in 51.2 overs
INDIA — 2ND INNINGS
487 for six decl. in 134.3 overs
AUSTRALIA — 2ND INNINGS
Nathan McSweeney lbw b Bumrah 0 *(4b)*, Usman Khawaja c Pant b Siraj 4 *(13b)*, Pat Cummins c Kohli b Siraj 2 *(8b)*, Marnus Labuschagne lbw b Bumrah 3 *(5b)*, Steve Smith c Pant b Siraj 17 *(60b)*, Travis Head c Pant b Bumrah 89 *(101b, 8x4)*, Mitchell Marsh b Nitish 47 *(67b, 3x4, 2x6)*, Alex Carey b Harshit 36 *(58b, 2x4)*, Mitchell Starc c Jurel b Washington 12 *(35b)*, Nathan Lyon b Washington 0 *(2b)*, Josh Hazlewood (not out) 4 *(10b, 1x4)*; Extras (b-5, lb-2, nb-11, w-6): 24; Total (in 58.4 overs): 238.
FALL OF WICKETS
1-0 (McSweeney, 0.4 overs), 2-9 (Cummins, 3.1), 3-12 (Labuschagne, 4.2), 4-17 (Khawaja, 5.3), 5-79 (Smith, 24.4), 6-161 (Head, 38.5), 7-182 (Marsh, 43.4), 8-227 (Starc, 53.4), 9-227 (Lyon, 53.6).
INDIA BOWLING
Bumrah 12-1-42-3, Siraj 14-2-51-3, Harshit 13.4-1-69-1, Washington 15-0-48-2, Nitish 4-0-21-1.
India won by 295 runs.
Player-of-the-Match: Bumrah.
Second Test (day-night): Dec. 6 to 10, Adelaide, 9.30 a.m. IST.

Ding scripts a win filled with surprises in opener

First blood: Ding got off to the best possible start in the defence of his title. FIDE

FIDE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SINGAPORE 2024

P.K. Ajith Kumar

The beauty of sport lies in surprises. And surprise was the major theme on the first day of the World chess championship at Resorts World Sentosa, Singapore, on Monday. It all began with the opening itself of the opening game as defending champion Ding Liren opted for French Defence against his young challenger D. Gukesh.

That is not exactly known as Ding's favourite opening from the black side. He had used it once in his World championship match against Ian Nepomniachtchi last year, and he had lost that game.

The evening's biggest surprise was the result. Ding won and got off to a dream start in defence of his title: a win with black pieces.

Of course, the match has just begun, and 13 games remain to be played, so Gukesh has plenty of time to rebound. But, to lose in the opening game in a World title match, that too with white pieces, isn't the most ideal way to begin.

Gukesh didn't seem bothered by Ding's decision to go French, as he played his moves quickly. It was the Chinese who needed much longer time in the early part; he was down by 20 minutes and then 30 minutes and it continued to get worse.

Gukesh had made his intentions clear as he tried to put pressure on the kingside. But, before long, the tables turned. On the other flank, Ding countered by pushing his 'a' pawn, which would prove pretty useful in the end. It marched forward, and got ready for promotion.

Gukesh was now three pawns down, and resigned on the 42nd move. He had to pay for his serious inaccuracies, such as the one with the queen on the 22nd move. Ding went on to build on his advantage.

The result was something of a surprise from a historical point of view, too. It was for the first time that the opening game of a World championship match was producing a result after 2010. In that match, Viswanathan Anand, now Gukesh's mentor, had lost to Veselin Topalov. But Anand had bounced right back, winning the second game, and went on to retain his World title.

So Gukesh needn't look far for inspiration.

> It was a tactical oversight by me. It can happen; it's a long match. About my opponent's form, I expected nothing else. I expected the best version of him, and we have a long match ahead, so it's only more exciting now
> **GUKESH**

GAME 1 MOVES

Gukesh v Ding: 1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. e5 Nfd7 5. f4 c5 6. Nce2 Nc6 7. c3 a5 8. Nf3 a4 9. Be3 Be7 10. g4 Qa5 11. Bg2 a3 12. b3 cxd4 13. b4 Qc7 14. Nexd4 Nb6 15. 0–0 Nc4 16. 14. Nexd4 Nb6 15.0–0 Nc4 16. Bf2 Bd7 17. Qe2 Nxd4 18. Nxd4 Nb2 19. Qe3 Rc8 20. Rac1 Qc4 21. f5 Qd3.

22. Qe1 Bg5 23. Rc2 Rc4 24. h4 Bf4 25. Qb1 Rxc3 26. Rxc3 Qxc3 27. fxe6 fxe6 28. Ne2 Qxe5 29. Nxf4 Qxf4 30. Qc2 Qc4 31. Qd2 0–0 32. Bd4 Nd3 33. Qe3 Rxf1+ 34. Bxf1 e5 35. Bxe5 Qxg4+ 36. Bg2 Bf5 37. Bg3 Be4 38. Kh2 h6 39. Bh3 Qd1 40. Bd6 Qc2+ 41. Kg3 Qxa2 42. Be6+ Kh8. *White resigned*

'We were under pressure when we were out for 150, but the team showed character'

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
PERTH

The joy over a job well done and the need to put team above self were the overwhelming themes that shimmered through Player-of-the-Match Jasprit Bumrah's press conference at the Optus Stadium here on Monday.

"I am very proud of the team. We were put under pressure in the first innings when we were bowled out for 150. But then the team showed character and that is really special," the Indian captain said shortly after guiding his men to a 295-run victory over Australia in the first Test.

Bumrah stressed that he focused on his preparation rather than obsess over the Aussie batters: "I was trying to focus on what I have to do. I don't know what they were thinking. I wanted to make them play as much as possible because the new ball is crucial over here. Happy that I was able to execute that."

Being in the present and staying calm were the guiding principles after India was bowled out for 150. "Sometimes when you are bowled out for a low score, you can be a little too desperate. When you try too much, it doesn't help and the run-scoring gets high. So, the message was, we will be disciplined and make run-making difficult," Bumrah said.

The spearhead was thrilled with Yashasvi Jaiswal's 161: "This was Jaiswal's best Test knock because, you know, he has an attacking nature. But in the second innings, he left certain balls as well, took time and batted deep. That gives us a lot of confidence, he has an attacking game but has patience as well and he is ready to adapt."

And about his former captain Virat Kohli, Bumrah said: "Virat scoring runs is always a great sign. He didn't look out of touch in the nets as well."

Two to tango: Bumrah and Washington took five wickets between them to hasten Australia's end. GETTY IMAGES

> It does hurt but India played well. They bowled well on the first day and that got them back. They then batted well in the second innings. Jaiswal, Rahul and Kohli did well

> I think we will head home and assemble in Adelaide a day earlier considering the Test got over early here. We will work on our plans then
> **PAT CUMMINS**
> Australia skipper

All-round India proves too good for Kazakhstan

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

India stunned Kazakhstan with a huge 88-69 win in the second window of the FIBA Asia Cup Qualifiers at the Nehru Indoor Stadium here on Monday. This was India's first victory in four matches. The Indians will next play in Iran (Feb. 21, 2025) and Qatar (Feb. 24).

Not only did India shine with three-pointers, it outshone Kazakhstan in shooting from the paint with good lay-ups and more number of offensive and defensive rebounds.

It was shooting-guard Kanwar Sandhu who started the resurgence after a sedate first quarter (9-18), coming up with three 3-pointers.

Impactful: Prince was a stand-out performer for India. R. RAGU

Point-guard Pranav Prince (17) was the lodestar for India, along with Kanwar (17). With seven assists and six rebounds, the former turned in an impressive performance.

"Beating a higher ranked team (India's 76 to Kazakhstan's 69), I don't think that's been done for 10-11 years," said a happy India coach Scott Fleming.

The result: India 88 (Pranav Prince 17, Kanwar Sandhu 17, Sahaij Sekhon 12, Amyjot Singh 15) bt Kazakhstan 69 (Vladimir Ivanov 17, Shaim Kuanov 11, Vadim Csherbak 12, Askar Maydekin 11).

The Dugouts for **IPL 2025**

As the dust settled on the two-day mega auction in Jeddah on Monday, a total of 182 players found their dream ticket

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS

RETAINED: Ruturaj Gaikwad, Matheesha Pathirana, Shivam Dube, Ravindra Jadeja, M.S. Dhoni

BUYS: SUNDAY: Noor Ahmad, R. Ashwin, Devon Conway, Khaleel Ahmed, Rachin Ravindra, Rahul Tripathi, Vijay Shankar

MONDAY: Anshul Kamboj **(3.40 crore)**, Sam Curran **(2.40)**, Gurjapneet Singh **(2.20)**, Nathan Ellis **(2)**, Deepak Hooda **(1.70)**, Jamie Overton **(1.50)**, Vansh Bedi **(0.55)**, Kamlesh Nagarkoti **(0.30)**, Mukesh Choudhary **(0.30)**, Ramakrishna Ghosh **(0.30)**, Shaik Rasheed **(0.30)**, Shreyas Gopal **(0.30)**, C. Andre Siddarth **(0.30)**

DELHI CAPITALS

RETAINED: Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Tristan Stubbs, Abishek Porel

BUYS: SUNDAY: K.L. Rahul, Mitchell Starc, T. Natarajan, Jake Fraser-Mcgurk, Harry Brook, Ashutosh Sharma, Mohit Sharma, Sameer Rizvi, Karun Nair

MONDAY: Mukesh Kumar **(8, RTM)**, Faf du Plessis **(2)**, Dushamantha Chameera **(0.75)**, Donovan Ferreira **(0.75)**, Vipraj Nigam **(0.50)**, Madhav Tiwari **(0.40)**, Darshan Nalkande **(0.30)**, Tripurana Vijay **(0.30)**, L. Manvanth Kumar **(0.30)**, Ajay Mandal **(0.30)**

GUJARAT TITANS

RETAINED: Rashid Khan, Shubman Gill, B. Sai Sudharsan, Rahul Tewatia, Shahrukh Khan

BUYS: SUNDAY: Jos Buttler, Mohammed Siraj, Kagiso Rabada, Prasidh Krishna, Mahipal Lomror, Kumar Kushagra, Anuj Rawat, Manav Suthar, Nishant Sindhu

MONDAY: Washington Sundar **(3.20)**, Sherfane Rutherford **(2.60)**, Gerald Coetzee **(2.40)**, Glenn Philips **(2)**, R. Sai Kishore **(2, RTM)**, Arshad Khan **(1.30)**, Gurnoor Singh Brar **(1.30)**, Ishant Sharma **(0.75)**, Jayant Yadav **(0.75)**, Karim Janat **(0.75)**, Kulwant Khejroliya **(0.30)**

KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS

RETAINED: Rinku Singh, Varun Chakaravarthy, Sunil Narine, Andre Russell, Harshit Rana, Ramandeep Singh

BUYS: SUNDAY: Venkatesh Iyer, Anrich Nortje, Quinton de Kock, Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Rahmanullah Gurbaz, Vaibhav Arora, Mayank Markande

MONDAY: Spencer Johnson **(2.80)**, Moeen Ali **(2)**, Rovman Powell **(1.50)**, Ajinkya Rahane **(1.50)**, Manish Pandey **(0.75)**, Umran Malik **(0.75)**, Anukul Roy **(0.40)**, Luvnith Sisodia **(0.30)**

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS

RETAINED: Nicholas Pooran, Ravi Bishnoi, Mayank Yadav, Mohsin Khan, Ayush Badoni

BUYS: SUNDAY: Rishabh Pant, Avesh Khan, David Miller, Abdul Samad, Mitchell Marsh, Aiden Markram, Aryan Juyal

MONDAY: Akash Deep **(8)**, Shahbaz Ahmad **(2.40)**, M. Siddharth **(0.75)**, Shamar Joseph **(0.75)**, Matthew Breetzke **(0.75)**, Digvesh Singh **(0.30)**, Himmat Singh **(0.30)**, Akash Singh **(0.30)**, Prince Yadav **(0.30)**, Yuvraj Chaudhary **(0.30)**, Arshin Kulkarni **(0.30)**, Rajvardhan Hangargekar **(0.30)**

MUMBAI INDIANS

RETAINED: Jasprit Bumrah, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya, Rohit Sharma, Tilak Varma

BUYS: SUNDAY: Trent Boult, Naman Dhir, Robin Minz, Karn Sharma

MONDAY: Deepak Chahar **(9.25)**, Will Jacks **(5.25)**, Allah Ghazanfar **(4.80)**, Mitchell Santner **(2)**, Ryan Rickelton **(1)**, Reece Topley **(0.75)**, Lizaad Williams **(0.75)**, Ashwani Kumar **(0.30)**, Shrijith Krishnan **(0.30)**, Raj Angad Bawa **(0.30)**, Venkata Satyanarayana Penmetsa **(0.30)**, Bevon Jacobs **(0.30)**, Arjun Tendulkar **(0.30)**, Vignesh Puthur **(0.30)**

PUNJAB KINGS

RETAINED: Shashank Singh, Prabhsimran Singh

BUYS: SUNDAY: Shreyas Iyer, Yuzvendra Chahal, Arshdeep Singh, Marcus Stoinis, Nehal Wadhera, Glenn Maxwell, V. Vyshak, Yash Thakur, Harpreet Brar, Vishnu Vinod

MONDAY: Marco Jansen **(7)**, Priyansh Arya **(3.80)**, Josh Inglis **(2.60)**, Azmatullah Omarzai **(2.40)**, Lockie Ferguson **(2)**, Aaron Hardie **(1.25)**, Kuldeep Sen **(0.80)**, Xavier Bartlett **(0.80)**, Pravin Dubey **(0.30)**, Pyla Avinash **(0.30)**, Suryansh Shedge **(0.30)**, Harnoor Pannu **(0.30)**, Musheer Khan **(0.30)**

RAJASTHAN ROYALS

RETAINED: Sanju Samson, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Riyan Parag, Dhruv Jurel, Shimron Hetmyer, Sandeep Sharma

BUYS: SUNDAY: Jofra Archer, Wanindu Hasaranga, Maheesh Theekshana, Akash Madhwal, Kumar Kartikeya

MONDAY: Tushar Deshpande **(6.50)**, Nitish Rana **(4.20)**, Fazalhaq Farooqi **(2)**, Kwena Maphaka **(1.50)**, Vaibhav Suryavanshi **(1.1)**, Shubham Dubey **(0.80)**, Yudhvir Charak **(0.35)**, Kunal Rathore **(0.30)**, Ashok Sharma **(0.30)**

ROYAL CHALLENGERS BENGALURU

RETAINED: Virat Kohli, Rajat Patidar, Yash Dayal

BUYS: SUNDAY: Josh Hazlewood, Phil Salt, Jitesh Sharma, Liam Livingstone, Rasikh Dar, Suyash Sharma

MONDAY: Bhuvneshwar Kumar **(10.75)**, Krunal Pandya **(5.75)**, Tim David **(3)**, Jacob Bethell **(2.60)**, Devdutt Padikkal **(2)**, Nuwan Thushara **(1.60)**, Romario Shepherd **(1.50)**, Lungi Ngidi **(1)**, Swapnil Singh **(0.50, RTM)**, Swastik Chhikara **(0.30)**, Manoj Bhandage **(0.30)**, Abhinandan Singh **(0.30)**, Mohit Rathee **(0.30)**

SUNRISERS HYDERABAD

RETAINED: Pat Cummins, Abhishek Sharma, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Heinrich Klaasen, Travis Head

BUYS: SUNDAY: Ishan Kishan, Mohammed Shami, Harshal Patel, Abhinav Manohar, Rahul Chahar, Adam Zampa, Simarjeet Singh, Atharva Taide

MONDAY: Eshan Malinga **(1.20)**, Brydon Carse **(1)**, Jaydev Unadkat **(1)**, Kamindu Mendis **(0.75)**, Zeeshan Ansari **(0.40)**, Aniket Verma **(0.30)**, Sachin Baby **(0.30)**

Pace is the ace on final day of the auction

Bhuvneshwar the biggest buy on Monday, going for ₹10.75 crore to RCB; MI picks up Deepak Chahar for 9.25 crore while LSG signs Akash Deep for 8 crore; 13-year-old Suryavanshi creates a ripple

IPL AUCTION

Amol Karhadkar
JEDDAH

The pacers' pack earned the big bucks on the second and final day of the Indian Premier League (IPL) player auction as the franchises struggled to shape up their squads for the 2025 edition.

Of the 110 players who were sold on Monday for a combined total of ₹175.20 crore at the Al Johar Abadi Arena, one-fourth of the money was splurged on seven pacers who were called in the fourth set.

Veteran Bhuvneshwar Kumar (10.75 crore) earned the biggest pay cheque of the day from Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

Once Mumbai Indians lost out on Bhuvneshwar, it broke the bank for Deepak Chahar (9.25 crore) and Lucknow Super Giants went big on Akash Deep (8 crore).

Punjab Kings chased Mukesh Kumar and even escalated the bid from 6.50 crore to 8 crore once Delhi Capitals employed the Right to Match (RTM) option but DC matched the bid. The RTM resulted in R. Sai Kishore, the Tamil Nadu all-rounder, going back to Gujarat Titans for 2 crore. Punjab Kings escalated the bid from 90 lakh to 2 crore which was matched by Titans.

Chennai Super Kings had a relatively quiet beginning, having managed to welcome all-rounder Sam Curran (2.40 crore) back into its stable. Later in the day, CSK went big on Indian pace duo of Anshul Kamboj (3.40 crore) and Tamil Nadu's Gurjapneet Singh (2.20 crore) to boost its pace battery. The franchise signed off with a near-perfect auction, filling its maximum allotted quota of 25 players with only ₹5 lakh remaining in its purse.

CSK signed seven overseas players, one less than the maximum allowed.

In fact, only four teams – Kolkata Knight Riders, Mumbai Indians, Punjab Kings and Royal Challengers Bengaluru – signed eight overseas cricketers.

As expected, Punjab Kings - who came into the auction with a whopping purse of 110.50 crore - spent the maximum amount over the two days. The Ricky Ponting-coached PBKS spent 110.15 crore.

Sunrisers Hyderabad appeared to have been struggling to go big on players with a tight purse at the start of the day but still managed to add strong domestic back-ups.

Surprisingly, Shardul Thakur, Mayank Agarwal and Prithvi Shaw remained unsold as all the franchises turned their back on the trio. Sarfaraz Khan too remained unsold for the second auction in succession. Sarfaraz's younger brother, Musheer, though, was picked at base price by Punjab Kings.

Bihar's 13-year-old Vaibhav Suryavanshi witnessed a bidding war for him before Rajasthan Royals bagged him for 1.1 crore. He became IPL's youngest signing.

Jeddah Jottings

In the auction, you have to plan for disappointments. We lost some players but our playing 12 is locked in and we're very happy. In the last two years, we've thought about the balance we needed to get back to winning ways
AKASH AMBANI, MI owner

It's a homecoming for Ashwin. He's world-class and has still got a very good skill set. The Noor Ahmad pick was looking more at the middle [overs] to attack. We've got Pathirana at the end
STEPHEN FLEMING, CSK head coach

Ishan Kishan was a huge deal for us. We identified players who had performed in the IPL previously and put a premium on that experience. We've seen that pay off time and time again
DANIEL VETTORI, SRH head coach

Starc is a match-winner. And with K.L. Rahul, [will have] somebody who is bankable and will give you runs each season. For me, at the moment, this is the best buy of the auction
HEMANG BADANI, DC head coach

I wanted to work with Shreyas. I've worked with him before and he is a great guy. We had certain targets coming into the auction and Arshdeep was obviously the first one. Great skill set with the new ball and the old
RICKY PONTING, PBKS head coach

Pant was our No. 1 target. We planned our auction strategy around him. We looked at the kind of impact he has on a game: proven match-winner, positive outlook and resilience
SANJIV GOENKA, LSG owner

We got a lot of our first options. We've got power up front, with Salt to partner Virat. Livingstone is really exciting to have alongside Rajat and Jitesh, a man with his best ahead of him
ANDY FLOWER, RCB head coach

It was about trying to keep our core. We've kept six players and brought two or three back. He [Venkatesh] was a terrific guy in the team, and had clearly told us, 'If you don't pick me, I will be very sad'
VENKY MYSORE, KKR CEO

Very happy to have Jos Buttler in our side. He can bat anywhere, keep as well and can help Shubman also. We wanted to buy our No. 1 bowler and No. 1 batter from the marquee set and we have both
PARTHIV PATEL, Titans' assistant coach

We have retained a strong core, so we're a little more comfortable. But it's important to think on your feet and adapt as surprises inevitably come up during the auction. I'm really happy to be back with Royals
RAHUL DRAVID, Royals' head coach

RTM's modified version makes a major impact

Amol Karhadkar
JEDDAH

The reintroduction of the Right to Match (RTM) option with a tweak was expected to make the IPL auction more interesting and exciting. And the new rule certainly made an impact here.

Unlike the last time in 2018, the highest bidder was given the option to escalate it to an amount of its choice and for the previous franchise to match it. This resulted in the top bidders outbidding the players' former employer despite the latter flashing the RTM card. Rishabh Pant was the biggest beneficiary of this.

When Lucknow Super Giants outbid others at ₹20.75 crore, Delhi Capitals raised the RTM paddle. LSG's counter-bid turned out to be 27 crore, the highest ever in IPL history, and DC was forced to let Pant go.

On the other hand, Arshdeep Singh saw Punjab Kings match the inflated bid of 18 crore (from SRH's 15.75 crore) and secure his services again.

On Monday, Mumbai Indians retained Naman Dhir despite the escalated bid being more than 50% of the highest bid for him.

"We would have saved one crore had we retained Naman before the auction, but it's fine," said MI owner Akash Ambani.

Even the head coaches endorsed the modification.

Daniel Vettori, Sunrisers Hyderabad's head coach, even had a suggestion in order to not make it a drag. "I think it's great. It puts you to some tough questions. The rationale was to give the players a fair price.

"Sometimes when the RTM comes, it might not quite be there for some of the good players. It's added an element to that. There has to be a shot-clock for the incremental bid," said Vettori.

Andy Flower, RCB head coach, also felt that the RTM modification added intrigue to the proceedings.

RTMs used

Arshdeep Singh	SRH from 15.75 to 18 cr.	matched by PBKS
Rishabh Pant	LSG from 20.75 to 27 cr.	let go by DC
Jake Fraser McGurk	PBKS from 5.75 to 9 cr	matched by DC
Harshal Patel	SRH from 6.75 to 8 cr	let go by PBKS
Rachin Ravindra	PBKS from 3.20 to 4 cr	matched by CSK
Jitesh Sharma	RCB from 7 to 11 cr	let go by PBKS
Noor Ahmad	CSK from 5 to 10 cr	let go by GT
Naman Dhir	RR from 3.40 to 5.25 cr	matched by MI
Rasikh Salam	RCB from 2 to 6 cr	let go by DC
Mukesh Kumar	PBKS from 6.50 to 8 cr	matched by DC
Swapnil Singh	DC from 35 to 50 lakh	matched by RCB
R. Sai Kishore	PBKS from 90 lakh to 2 cr	matched by GT
Nathan Ellis	CSK from 1.40 to 2 cr	let go by PBKS
Shamar Joseph	MI at 75 lakh	matched by LSG

RTM adds to the spectacle. There are those who argue that it does not give you accurate market price, but I would argue against that, said Flower

Great theatre

"The IPL auction is great theatre... the build-up, the complexities and the multiple variables of it making it fascinating to be part of," said Flower.

"RTM adds to the spectacle. There are those who argue that it does not give you accurate market price, but I would argue against that.

"We are getting an accurate price. That's a snapshot from myself."

Of the 14 times the RTM card was used, only on eight occasions did the previous franchise end up retaining a player.

There were a few opposing voices to the escalating bid modification. "I still maintain that the old RTM rule should be in place," said Venky Mysore, Kolkata Knight Riders' GM & Chief Executive.

INBRIEF

All out for 7 — Ivory Coast's dubious distinction

Ivory Coast achieved an ignominious milestone on Sunday by posting the lowest-ever total in men's T20Is after it was dismissed for seven runs in its ICC T20 World Cup Sub-Regional Africa Qualifier Group-C match against Nigeria. In reply to Nigeria's 271 for four, Ivory Coast folded in 7.3 overs to record the first instance of a single-digit team total in men's T20I. O.K. Mohamed scored four runs while there were six ducks!

The scores: Nigeria 271/4 in 20 overs (Salau 112, Okpe 65 n.o. Runsewe 50) bt Ivory Coast 7 in 7.3 overs (Useni 3/0, Danladi 3/2).

Bangladesh batsmen struggle but avert the follow-on

Some dogged batting ensured that Bangladesh saved the follow-on before bad light brought a premature end to the third day of the first Test against the West Indies in Antigua on Sunday. Starting the day on 40 for two in reply to the West Indies' 450 for nine declared, Bangladesh crawled to 269 for nine, past the follow-on mark but still trailing by 181 runs.

The scores: West Indies 450/9 decl. vs. Bangladesh 269/9 in 98 overs (Mominul Haque 50, Litton Das 40, Jaker Ali 53).

Sinner 'heartbroken' over doping accusations

World No. 1 Jannik Sinner said his off-court turmoil over doping accusations was "heartbreaking", after winning the Davis Cup with Italy on Sunday to complete a stellar year. He completed his sensational year by leading Italy to a successful defence with victory over the Netherlands in the final on Sunday. The World No. 1 eased to a 7-6(2), 6-2 triumph against Tallon Griekspoor for the winning point after Matteo Berrettini had put the champion ahead with a convincing 6-4, 6-2 win against Botic van de Zandschulp. Sinner ends 2024 with titles at the Australian Open, US Open and the ATP Finals.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FIXTURES

Tuesday: Slovan Bratislava v AC Milan, Sparta Prague v Atlético Madrid (both 11.15 p.m.); Barcelona v Brest, Bayer Leverkusen v RB Salzburg, Bayern Munich v Paris Saint-Germain, Inter Milan v RB Leipzig, Manchester City v Feyenoord, Sporting CP v Arsenal, Young Boys v Atalanta (all 1.30 a.m., Wednesday).
Wednesday: Red Star Belgrade v VfB Stuttgart, SK Sturm Graz v Girona (both 11.15 p.m.); AS Monaco v Benfica, Aston Villa v Juventus, Bologna v Lille, Celtic v Club Brugge, Dinamo Zagreb v Borussia Dortmund, Liverpool v Real Madrid, PSV Eindhoven v Shakhtar Donetsk (all 1.30 a.m., Thursday).

LIVE TELECAST

Zimbabwe vs Pakistan: 2nd ODI, FanCode, 1 p.m.
Chess: World Championship match, Chessbase India YouTube channel, 2.30 p.m. onwards
ISL: Sports 18-3 & JioCinema, 7.30 p.m.
West Indies vs Bangladesh: 1st Test, day 5, FanCode, 7.30 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m.
Champions League: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 11.15 p.m. ; Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3, 5 & LIV, 1.30 a.m. (Wednesday)

Tamil Nadu romps to a second straight win

Bowlers back up good work by Jagadeesan, Indrajith with impressive performance; Mayank and Smaran slam half-centuries as Karnataka beats Tripura

MUSHTAQ ALI

Vivek Krishnan
INDORE

Blazing away: Jagadeesan's quickfire knock powered Tamil Nadu. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

On a Monday afternoon where the scorching sun ramped up the heat, Tamil Nadu produced fireworks with the bat against Sikkim in a battle as one-sided as a victory margin of 134 runs illustrates.

Batting first on winning the toss, the men in yellow posted 218 for six at the Emerald Heights International School ground.

The northeast outfit was confined to 84 for seven, giving Tamil Nadu a second straight win in Group B of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. Skipper M. Shahrukh Khan and all-rounder Vijay Shankar weren't needed with the bat, held back as they were to give others time at the crease.

N. Jagadeesan took full toll of a pedestrian Sikkim bowling unit, top-scoring with 88 off 49 balls. Unlike the previous game where he batted at No. 3, he strode out to open alongside B. Indrajith. It is understood that B. Sai Sudharsan was unavailable for selection, having been called up to the Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru.

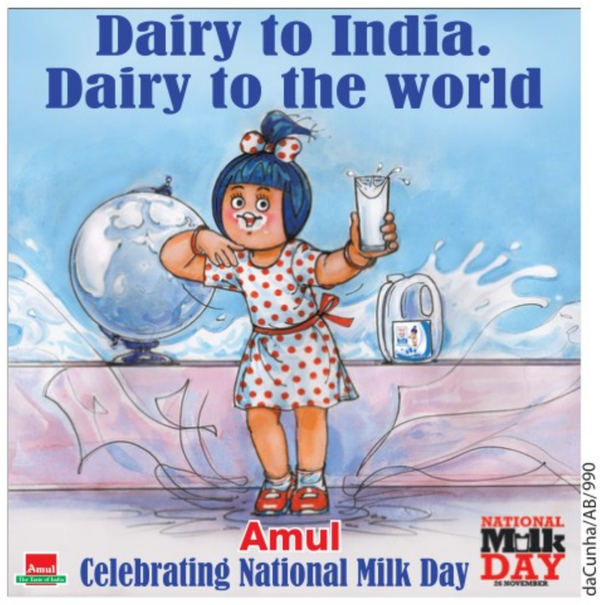
With a partnership of 78 runs in seven overs, Jagadeesan and Indrajith quickly gave the contest an air of predictability.

Just as they had done against Tripura at the Holkar Stadium by unleashing their shots to lay the platform for an imposing total. This was a different venue, but the pitch was just as true, allowing them to hammer the ball through the line without the slightest hesitation. Indrajith only came undone when a heave across the line against medium-pacer Bhim Luitel resulted in the ball knocking back the stumps. Jagadeesan, however, was in the mood to capitalise.

After losing to Uttarakhand on Saturday, Karnataka bounced back with a five-wicket win over Tripura.

Chasing 186 for victory, the Mayank Agarwal-led team reached the target with five wickets in hand.

While Agarwal and R. Smaran scored half-centuries, Abhinav Manohar applied the finishing touch with an unbeaten 34.



SNAPSHOTS

Odisha slams six past hapless Hyderabad

HYDERABAD: Hyderabad FC's dismal run at home continued as Odisha FC recorded a thumping 6-0 win in an ISL match on Monday. Hyderabad has not won a home game since February 2023 in 16 matches. It was Odisha which was on the offensive from the word go with forwards Lalthathanga Khawlhring, Hugo Boumous and Ahmed Jahouh working in tandem.

The result: Hyderabad 0 lost to Odisha 6 (Vanlalruatfela 12, Mauricio 30, Jongte 51-og, Fall 70, Khawlhring 75, Rahim 89).

Pink Panthers pull off a big win over Paltan

NOIDA: Jaipur Pink Panthers scored a 37-23 verdict over defending champion Puneri Paltan in the Pro Kabaddi League at the Noida Indoor Stadium on Monday. Arjun Deshwal led the charge for Panthers with 16 points as the Jaipur outfit completed the double over Paltan in season 11.

BENGALURU ROUND UP

Big win for Karnataka

M. Maria Francica took three for 18 as Karnataka defeated Delhi by ten wickets in the BCCI under-15 girls' one-day trophy in Dehradun.

The scores: Delhi 91 in 34.2 overs (M. Maria Francica 3/18) lost to Karnataka 92 for no loss in 21.3 overs (Rohini Dechamma 39 n.o., Liyanka Shetty 42 n.o.).

Akaash in the lead

Karnataka's Akaash Ashok Kumar soared into the lead after the first three squads completed the first block of six games in the first round of the ARC 33rd National tenpin bowling championships.

Akaash started with scores of 189 and 212, before finding his rhythm in next four games, scoring 221, 229, 222 and 223 to finish with a total pinfall of 1296. Shabbir of Tamil Nadu is second (1229) and Shujjat Ali Khan of Maharashtra is third (1177).

Abinav and Tanishka triumph

Abinav Prasanna and Tanishka Kapil Kalbhairav emerged the under-13 boys' and girls' singles champions respectively at the C.V.L. Shastry memorial State table tennis championships on Monday.

Akaash.

The results: Boys: U-13: Abinav Prasanna bt M. Satwik 11-4, 11-4, 11-4; **U-11:** Arnav Mithun bt Ankush Baliga 11-8, 10-12, 13-11, 14-12.

Girls: U-13: Tanishka Kapil Kalbhairav bt Mihika R. Udupa 11-3, 11-6, 11-2; U-11: Sakshya Santhosh bt M. Aadhya 12-10, 11-8, 12-10.

Rapid chess tournament

Champions Chess Academy will conduct a rapid tournament in the under-10 and 18 categories on December 1 at its premises. Entries close on November 29. Call Balakrishna Prabhu (984546 6416).

Hat-trick by Lalrinfela

K. Lalrinfela scored a hat-trick as Bangalore Dream United FC edged out Snipers FC 3-2 in the BDFA B-division league championship on Monday.

The results: Roots 4 (Hengna 78, Farid 28, 44, Sparsh Desai 65) bt RWF 0; Bangalore Dream United 3 (K. Lalrinfela 15, 20, 58) bt Snipers 2 (Amal Suresh 14, Arun Tudu 77).

Big win for Beasant-B

Beasant HC-B thrashed Bosch (Bangalore) 9-0 in the KSHA C-division hockey league championship on Monday.

In another match, Friends HC (Kalburgi) blanked New Ashoka HC 8-0.

SMAT SECOND ROUND SCORES

Group-A

Rajkot: Rajasthan 217/6 in 20 overs (Bharat Sharma 74, Deepak Hooda 65) bt Mizoram 155/5 in 20 overs (Jehu Anderson 37, Agni Chopra 47, Mohit Jangra 41 n.o.); **Toss:** Mizoram.
Points: Rajasthan 4(8), Mizoram 0(0).
Bihar 113/6 in 20 overs (Harpreet Brar 3/18) lost to Punjab 114/4 in 9.4 overs (Prabhsimran Singh 38, Abhishek Sharma 33); **Toss:** Bihar.
Punjab 4(4), Bihar 0(0).
Madhya Pradesh 222/5 in 20 overs (Subhranshu Senapati 40, Rajat Patidar 78, Venkatesh Iyer 37 n.o., Anish Charak 3/22) bt Meghalaya 121 in 19.4 overs (Arshad Khan 3/5); **Toss:** MP.
MP 4(8), Meghalaya 0(0).
Hyderabad 137 in 18.3 overs (Tilak Varma 57, Rahul Buddhi 30, Mohammed Shami 3/21) lost to Bengal 138/2 in 17.5 overs (Abishek Porel 41, Karan Lal 46); **Toss:** Bengal.
Bengal 4(8), Hyderabad 0(4).

Group-B

Indore: Tripura 185/5 in 20 overs (Samrat Sutradhar 55, Mandeep Singh 66 n.o.) lost to Karnataka 191/5 in 19.3 overs (Mayank Agarawal 51, R. Smaran 57, Abhinav Manohar 34 n.o.); **Toss:** Karnataka. Karnataka 4(4), Tripura 0(0).
Uttarakhand 165/7 in 20 overs (Avneesh Sudha 38, R. Samarth 42) lost to Baroda 168/5 in 18.4 overs (Krunal Pandya 45, Hardik Pandya 41 n.o.); **Toss:** Baroda.
Baroda 4(8), Uttarakhand 0(4).
Tamil Nadu 218/6 in 20 overs (B. Indrajith 33, N. Jagadeesan 88, Boopathi Kumar 36, Rithik Easwaran 33, Roshan Kumar 4/34) bt Sikkim 84/7 in 20 overs; **Toss:** TN.
TN 4(8), Sikkim 0(0).
Saurashtra 196/4 in 20 overs (Vishvarajsinh Jadeja 52 n.o., Harvik Desai 47, Prerak Mankad 31) lost to Gujarat 199/5 in 19.2 overs (Hemang Patel 57 n.o., Saurav Chauhan 54); **Toss:** Saurashtra. Saurashtra 0(4), Gujarat 4(4).

Group-C

Mumbai: Jharkhand 243/4 in 20 overs (Virat Singh 64, Kumar Kushagra 37, Pankaj Kumar 42 n.o., Robin Minz 36 n.o.) bt Manipur 155/6 in 20 overs (Kangabam Priyojit 65 n.o., Vivekanand Tiwari 3/23); **Toss:** Manipur.
Jharkhand 4(4), Manipur 0(0).
Delhi 161/4 in 20 overs (Himmat Singh 71 n.o.) bt Jammu & Kashmir 126 in 19.4 overs (Paras Dogra 34, Harsh Tyagi 3/34); **Toss:** Delhi.
Delhi 4(8), J&K 0(4).
Haryana 255/2 in 20 overs (Himanshu Rana 91, Nishant Sindhu 100 n.o.) bt Arunachal Pradesh 80 in 17 overs (Harshal Patel 5/12); **Toss:** Haryana.
Haryana 4(8), Arunachal 0(0).
Himachal Pradesh 100 in 18.2 overs (Piyush Chawla 4/12) lost to Uttar Pradesh 104/3 in 13.3 overs (Madhav Kaushik 38 n.o., Rinku Singh 45 n.o.); **Toss:** Himachal.
UP 4(4), Himachal 0(4).

Group-D

Visakhapatnam: Chandigarh 191/9 in 20 overs (Arjun Azad 39, Shivam Bhambri 75, Raj Bawa 30, Dipesh Parwani 4/56) bt Vidarbha 186/9 in 20 overs (Atharva Taide 31, Apoorv Wankhade 72, Jagjit Singh 3/41, Raj Bawa 3/33); **Toss:** Vidarbha.
Chandigarh 4(8), Vidarbha 0(4).
Chhattisgarh 166/7 in 20 overs (Shubham Agarwal 49 n.o., Gagandeep Singh 44 n.o.) lost to Pondicherry 168/4 in 19.2 overs (Arun Karthik 52, Ajay Rohera 39, Akash Kargave 38); **Toss:** Pondicherry.
Pondicherry 4(4), Chhattisgarh 0(0).
Vizianagaram: Odisha 194/5 in 20 overs (Swastik Samal 105) lost to Railways 198/3 in 18.5 overs (Vivek Singh 59, Pratham Singh 56, Upendra Yadav 46 n.o.); **Toss:** Railways.
Railways 4(4), Odisha 0(0).

Group-E

Hyderabad: Kerala 187/7 in 20 overs (Rohan Kunnummal 45, Mohammed Azharuddeen 40, Sachin Baby 40 n.o.) lost to Maharashtra 189/6 in 19.5 overs (Rahul Tripathi 44, Azim Kazi 32, Divyang Hinganekar 43 n.o.); **Toss:** Maharashtra.
Maharashtra 4(8), Kerala 0(4).
Services 187/7 in 20 overs (Kunwar Pathak 63, Rajat Paliwal 40, Mohit Rathee 33) bt Goa 165/5 in 20 overs (Rohan Kadam 49 n.o., K. Siddharth 55); **Toss:** Goa.
Services 4(4), Goa 0(0).
Nagaland 77 in 17.1 overs (C. Stephen 3/6, T. Vijay 4/8) lost to Andhra 79/2 in 9.4 overs (Ashwin Hebbar 43); **Toss:** Andhra.
Andhra 4(4), Nagaland 0(0).

MAHATRANSCO Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

E-TENDER NOTICE (2nd call)

MSETCL SRM invites online RFx (e-Tender) from the Registered Contractors for MAHATRANSCO e-Tendering (SRM) website for below mentioned work.
E-tender No./ RFx No. 7000033696 Name of work : "2nd call for work of replacement of existing 0.4 ACSR Conductor by equivalent High Performance conductor for 220 kV Kalwa – Colourchem, 220 kV Kalwa – Temghar & 220 kV Colourchem – Temghar Line & Bay strengthening work at 220/22 kV Temghar Substation, 220 kV Colourchem Substation, 400 kV Kalwa Substation and 220 kV Kalwa Substation under EHV O&M Circle, Kalwa" Estimated Cost: Rs. 49,18,62,853/- Tender Fees : Rs. 25,000/-+ GST.
Date for Sale and Submission of the e-Tender Documents: From 26.11.2024 @ 15.00 Hrs to 17.12.2024 @ 15.30 Hrs. For detailed information visit our website: https://srmetender.mahatransco.in -Sd-
CHIEF ENGINEER, EHV PC (O&M) Zone, **Vashi**

Boundary Lab wins the Best sports book of the year award

Sports Bureau

Boundary Lab, a book by lawyer Nandan Kamath, won the 'Sports Book of the Year' award in the Ekamra Sports Literature Festival in New Delhi.

Witness, an autobiography of Olympic medallist Sakshi Malik, written by Jonathan Selvaraj of *Sportstar* magazine, won the 'Autobiography of the Year' award. The 'Cricket Book of the Year' award was bagged by *I Have the Streets: A Kutti Cricket Story* by R. Ashwin and Sidharth Monga. Penguin Random House India emerged Publisher of the Year, as three of its books won the awards.

Take that! Mbappe fires in Real's opener. AFP

Mbappe, Bellingham excel in Real Madrid's facile win

EURO LEAGUES

Reuters
LEGANES

Kylian Mbappe ended his goal drought with a thunderous strike and midfielder Jude Bellingham scored a header as Real Madrid thrashed Leganes 3-0 on Sunday. Real is second on 30 points.

The results: LaLiga: Sevilla 1 (Sow 27) bt Rayo Vallecano 0; Leganes 0 lost to Real Madrid 3 (Mbappe 43, Valverde 66, Bellingham 85); Athletic Bilbao 1 (Sancet 26) bt Real Sociedad 0.

Serie A: Genoa 2 (Frendrup 12, Miretti 59) drew with Cagliari 2 (Marin 8-pen, Piccoli 88-pen); Lazio 3 (Gigot 88, Zaccagni 72, Dele-Bashiru 90+2) bt Bologna 0; Napoli 1 (Lukaku 53) bt Roma 0; Torino 1 (Masina 60) drew with Monza 1 (Djuric 63).

Bundesliga: Holstein Kiel 0 lost to Mainz 3 (Amiri 11, Burkardt 37-pen, Lee Jae-sung 53); Borussia Moenchengladbach 2 (Plea 13, Kleindienst 43) bt St Pauli 0.

ODISHA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
19, Dr. P.K. Parija Road, Cuttack -753001

No. 6683 /PSC Dt.25/11/24

Odisha Public Service Commission invites sealed proposals from reputed bidders in respect of the **"Expression of Interest (EOI) for digital evaluation of Answer Books on Subjective Papers"**. For details, the bidders are requested to visit website of the Commission **www.opsc.gov.in**. **The last date & time for receipt of pre bid queries & final proposals are 30.11.2024 05.00PM and 16.12.2024, 02.00PM respectively.** OPSC reserves the right to accept /reject any/all proposals/bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Secretary

D-191: OIPR-12002/11/0097/2425

Government of Odisha
Department of Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

No. 9724 / SSEPD, Dt. 25.11.2024
SSEPD-DA-5-0013-2024

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

SSEPD Dept. invites sealed tenders from the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) / OEM authorized venders for empanelment for supply of readymade items of Aids / Appliances under BBSA scheme to Districts/DDRCs/SIDR/SIEP under two bid systems (Technical & Financial) as per the following schedule.

Complete set of bidding document is available on e-tender website http:/www.tendersodisha.gov.in from 26.11.2024 (10.00 AM) up-to 18.12.2024 (05.00 PM). Pre-bid meeting will be held on 06.12.2024. The last date of submission bid is 18.12.2024 (05.00 PM). Interested Agencies/Firms may visit above website for details on the tender process and schedule of requirements

N.B:- All subsequent addendums / corrigendum to the tender shall be hosted in the Government of Odisha e-tender portal www.tendersodisha.gov.in

DIRECTOR, SSEPD Deptt.

gg-112 : OIPR-46001/11/0019/2425

Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Southern Region Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institute
Tractor Nagar, Garladinne, Dist. Anantapur (A.P.)-515 731
An I.S.O. 9001- 2015 Certified Institute
Web: http://srfmtti.dacnet.nic.in E-mail: fmt-sr@nic.in

Advertisement No. SRFMTTI/01/2024
File No.6-2/2024-Misc **RECRUITMENT NOTICE** Date : 25-11-2024

Applications are invited from eligible candidates belonging to Offices under the Central Government or State Government or Union Territories or Public Sector Undertakings or Agricultural Universities or recognised research institutions or semi-Government or autonomous or statutory organisations for **filling up of one post of Agricultural Engineer [General Central Service, Group 'B' Gazetted in Level 7 (Rs. 44900-142400) in the pay matrix), at Southern Region Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute, Anantapur (Andhra Pradesh)** a subordinate office under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on deputation (including short term contract) basis urgently. Complete details about eligibility conditions including format of application, place of posting etc. are available on the website of Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare **www.farmech.dac.gov.in,** and the website of Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes fmttibudni.gov.in/nrfmtti.gov.in/ srfmtti.dacnet.nic.in/nerfmtti.nic.in

Application (in triplicate) in prescribed proforma with complete details / documents should be forwarded through proper channel to the Under Secretary (M&T), Room No. 12 A, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Krishi Bhawan, Dr.Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-110001 within a period of 60 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in the Employment News.

Sd/- Director

Amul
The Taste of India

2025 International Year of Cooperatives

Amul

The world's strongest food brand.

The world's largest dairy cooperative movement.

MADE IN INDIA. FOR THE WORLD.

Amul is a testament to the power of the collective.
A pioneering cooperative, for the last 78 years, Amul has empowered 36 lakh farmers to become self-reliant and economically independent, with milk that ensures a sustainable life and well-being for these women farmers and their families.

The proven, successful Amul cooperative model has made India the largest producer of milk in the world. With over 1100 crore litres of milk procurement every year and annual sales turnover of ₹ 80,000 crores, Amul has been rated as the strongest food brand in the world*. This model has travelled from state to state within India and now to other countries too.

Today, on the National Milk Day celebrated on Dr. Verghese Kurien's birth anniversary, we are proud of our legacy of 8 decades.
Inspired by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in service of the farmers and development of the nation.

On the proud occasion of commemorating the year 2025 as the International Year of the Cooperatives, announced at the ICA Global Cooperative Conference at New Delhi, we look forward to showcasing the spirit of cooperatives – Sahkar Se Samriddhi, to the world.

NATIONAL Milk DAY
26 NOVEMBER

*Brand Finance's Global Food & Drinks Report 2024